

Corangamite Shire

AGENDA

Ordinary Council Meeting

7.00 pm • Tuesday 25 July 2017

*Noorat Community Centre
(Recreation Reserve)
59 MacKinnons Bridge Rd, Noorat*

Order of Business

1. PRAYER
2. APOLOGIES
3. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST
4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES
RECOMMENDATION
That the Minutes of the Corangamite Shire Ordinary Council meeting held on Tuesday 27 June 2017 be confirmed.
5. DEPUTATIONS & PRESENTATIONS
6. MAYOR'S REPORT
7. COMMITTEE REPORTS
8. INFORMATION BULLETIN
9. PLANNING REPORTS
10. OFFICERS' REPORTS
11. OTHER BUSINESS
12. OPEN FORUM
13. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

ANDREW MASON
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

DISCLAIMER

The advice and information contained herein is given by the Council without liability or responsibility for its accuracy. Before placing any reliance on this advice or information, a written enquiry should be made to the Council giving the entire reason or reasons for seeking the advice or information and how it is proposed to be used.

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5. DEPUTATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

1. Members of the public may address Council under this section of the Agenda of an Ordinary Meeting of the Council if:
 - a) The person is addressing the Council in respect to a submission on an issue under Section 223 of the *Local Government Act*, or
 - b) The person has requested that they address Council on an issue and the Mayor has agreed that they be heard.
2. Requests to address Council must be received by 5.00 pm on the day prior to the scheduled Ordinary Meeting of the Council.
3. Presentations made to Council in this section of the Agenda may not exceed five minutes in length, although Councillors may ask questions proceeding each presentation. If a presentation exceeds five minutes in length, the Mayor may request that the presenter ceases to address Council immediately.

6. MAYOR'S REPORT

6.1 Mayor's Report

Author: Jo Beard, Mayor

File No: D17/488

Previous Council Reference: Nil

Declaration

Chief Executive Officer – Andrew Mason

In providing this advice to Council as the Chief Executive Officer, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

Author - Jo Beard

In providing this advice to Council as the Mayor, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

Issues

The end of the financial year has once again passed us and is always a great time for reflection. In relation to financial management, Council's again, conservative approach has resulted in a good financial position for Corangamite Shire, which I hope will continue as Council faces the challenge of financial sustainability experienced by rural councils. Council will be debt free this financial year, which is a rare accomplishment in Local Government, all whilst maintaining its infrastructure and the essential services our community expects and relies on.

It is then at this time of year that as elected representatives we have the great pleasure of attending many service club changeover dinners. For me personally, I enjoy these events as this provides a wonderful opportunity to thank the members and supportive partners for their tireless and dedicated volunteer work within our community, and celebrate their accomplishments. Our service clubs not only do amazing work within our own region, but also abroad. As Mayor, I wish I could attend all the invitations I receive, however circumstances don't always allow for this.

On 30 June, I attended the Rotary Club of Cobden's changeover dinner. This Club has been responsible for many projects within the community, but particularly responsible for the Corangamite Shire Australia Day Community Event of the Year, 'Free Farmers Family Day', which was organised in conjunction with the South West Model Engineers and WestVic Dairy. The event was a great success, supporting local farming families going through difficult times following the dairy crisis, by allowing them to come together and enjoy a day out at the Cobden miniature railway. On 6 July I attended the Camperdown Lions Club changeover dinner. What a great night with wonderful people this was. It was a real highlight for me seeing so many in attendance, and of varying ages too, which confirmed the strength of this club. Camperdown Lions have been doing a power of work that often goes unrecognised, but like all our committed volunteers, they serve because the care and not for recognition.

Volunteers provide a number of invaluable services to a wide range of people, including the elderly as part of meals on wheels services and even transporting those around unable to do so themselves, as well as our young people involved with emergency services, community leadership, sporting and recreational clubs. I have personally found that being a volunteer is a rewarding experience and I encourage anyone interested in taking part and supporting in roles that help make a difference, big or small. Just being involved can mean more than you know.

Annual General Meetings are also a popular necessity at the end of the financial year amongst our communities. Many groups, including senior citizens groups, and hall committees within the Shire are meeting to review the past year and plan for the future. As I say to all members when I attend these meetings, thank you for doing what you do, your contribution is valued and appreciated, and our communities and assets would certainly not be as wonderful, well used and vibrant as they are if it wasn't for you.

Information only.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

7.1 Audit Committee Report - 8 June 2017 Meeting

Author: David Rae, Director Corporate and Community Services

File No: D17/479

Previous Council Reference: 26 April 2017, Item 7.2

Declaration

Chief Executive Officer – Andrew Mason

In providing this advice to Council as the Chief Executive Officer, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

Author - David Rae

In providing this advice to Council as the Director Corporate and Community Services, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

Summary

This report provides Council with a summary of business considered at the 8 June 2017 meeting of the Audit Committee.

Introduction

The Audit Committee (the Committee) is an independent advisory committee to Council. The primary objective of the Committee is to assist Council in the effective conduct of its responsibilities for financial reporting, management of risk, maintaining a reliable system of internal controls and facilitating the organisation's ethical development.

Issues

Attendees at the Committee meeting were as follows:

Councillors: Cr Bev McArthur, Cr Neil Trotter,

Independent Members: Colin Hayman (Chairperson) Nancy Johnson, Andrew Jeffers

Officers: Andrew Mason, Chief Executive Officer
Ian Gibb, Director Sustainable Development
David Rae, Director Corporate and Community Services
Adam Taylor, Manager Finance

Guests: Gabrielle Castree, Crowe Horwath (Internal Auditor)
Chris Kol, Coffey Hunt (Victorian Auditor General's Office Agent)

Apologies: Nil

Declaration of Conflict of Interest: Nil

The Committee considered the following matters at the meeting:

- 2016-2017 External Audit Interim Management Letter
- Related Party Disclosure Policy
- Status Update - Outstanding Internal Audit Recommendations
- 2017-2018 Draft Budget
- Finance Report as at 31 March 2017
- VAGO Performance Report - Public Participation and Community Engagement
- Other Business:
 - Fraud prevention.
 - Rostered Day Off management.
 - Traditional Owner Settlement Amendment Act 2016 relating to the Land Use Activity Agreements.

The Committee also considered two confidential matters.

Policy and Legislative Context

Reporting of the Audit Committee's activities is consistent with the Council Plan 2017-2021 which includes the following commitments:

We are committed to ensuring the ethical behaviour of Councillors and staff, maintaining good governance and remaining financially sustainable.

Council will demonstrate high levels of ethical behaviour and governance standards.

Council will make budgetary decision that ensure Council remains in a strong financial position now and into the future.

Council will deliver value for money by ensuring that services are required and delivered efficiently and sustainably.

Financial and Resource Implications

There are no financial and resource implications as a consequence of this report.

Conclusion

The next meeting of the Audit Committee is scheduled for September 2017 and a report on that meeting will be presented at the October 2017 Council meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives the Audit Committee report.

8. INFORMATION BULLETIN

8.1 Review of Noorat Community Plan

Author: Garry Moorfield, Community Development Officer

File No: D17/477

Previous Council Reference: Nil

Declaration

Chief Executive Officer – Andrew Mason

In providing this advice to Council as the Chief Executive Officer, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

Author - Garry Moorfield

In providing this advice to Council as the Community Development Officer, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

Summary

This report provides advice to Council on the review of Noorat's Community Plan – *Community Priorities for Township Development 2013 - 2023*.

Introduction

Noorat's 10 year community plan was prepared over the three-month period from April to June 2013, and received by Council on 23 July 2013. It involved a town survey and a public meeting to deliberate on and rank identified priorities. Some 34 people, or 25 per cent of the adult town population of 167 (ABS, 2011) participated. The plan listed some 27 township priorities. These priorities cover a range of social and infrastructure issues. Six (6) were potential community projects, six (6) could be completed through the agency of Council, and five (5) were State Government responsibilities. The balance relied upon the action of private commercial interests, community organisations, or partnerships between various agencies. The top six (6) priorities received strong support through both the survey and voting, with the remaining twenty-one (21) priorities presenting a long-tail of spread votes. At the time it was noted that it remained open to individuals and group to pursue any of these 27 objectives through any of a number of channels available to them.

The review of Noorat's Town Plan occurred almost exactly four years on from the original formulation in 2013. It was presented as an opportunity to celebrate what has been achieved, to check whether current priorities are still relevant, and to put forward ideas for new township priorities. Participation was open to any person with an interest in Noorat and its future.

Great progress has been made on each of the top six township priorities over the past four years, with all either completed or in train. A number of the lower-order priorities have also been realised. Almost all of the completed projects are the product of community or Council efforts, and many the product of Community/ Council partnerships.

Heading the list is the work on the Mount Noorat Walking Track, which has progressed in a way few could have imagined due to the generosity of the Neil Black Estate. The

foundations are set for Mount Noorat to play an even more significant role in the life of the local community and visitors to Noorat as more people have the opportunity to learn about and appreciate its cultural, conservation and geological significance.

Noorat does not have much by way of footpaths along Mackinnons Bridge Road, so the completion of the gravel walking path from the School to the Recreation Reserve represents a significant improvement to the amenity of Noorat. This project was not without its problems, however the community enjoyed strong support from Corangamite Shire Works staff to resolve them as far as possible in the circumstances. The Shire has also completed repairs on damaged footpaths. Whereas there is still seen to be a need to provide more and better footpaths in Noorat, the original priority 3 has been reduced to priority 18 given the work completed to date.

Other highlights include the re-establishment of the central native plant garden, this time with a water supply arranged by Corangamite Shire, the Noorat Newsletter and the Town Market. Installation of new town entry signage is nearing completion and work continues on the 'Volcanic Lakes and Plains' town promotion.

Issues

The review process commenced with a re-appraisal of the list of 'What do you value most about Noorat?' This was recognised as a critical step in the 'appreciative enquiry' process, whereby social, physical and environmental assets are recognised, so that future development proposals do not undermine the preservation and maintenance of valued community attributes.

The community then reviewed the list of completed projects which could be removed from the priority list. The third step was to obtain consensus on which other priorities might be removed from the Town Plan as 'no longer relevant'. The fourth step was to (uncritically) add any and all ideas for new project priorities. The resultant list of priorities determined by this process was presented for assessment by 'voting', that is, that application of coloured stickers by each person present of their 'top five' priorities. The meeting then reviewed the revised list of Noorat Community plan priorities.

PRIORITY PROJECTS AND ACTION AGENCY

P2	P1	PROJECT		S1	V1	G1	V2	AGENCY
1	1	IMPROVE MOUNT NOORAT WALKING TRACK	Improve the walking track up the Mount, Work with Committee of Management to develop Mount Noorat walking track, including viewing platform, interpretive signage, picnic tables or covered area at the lookout on Mount Noorat, Bubble taps, picnic tables and maybe BBQ at top of Mount Noorat, Put more picnic tables in, Fix the hut, Improve walking safety on Mount Noorat, clearer paths	18	8	7	14	PRIVATE/ COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP
2	12	PLAYGROUND IMPROVEMENTS	Expand playground in town centre, More playground equipment in main street, More for teenagers,	2	5	-	13	COMMUNITY/ SHIRE PARTNERSHIP
3		PUBLIC ART	Develop more public art projects (eg old Co-Op store, water tanks				12	COMMUNITY PROJECT WITH PARTNERS
4	22	OPEN LAKE KEILAMBETE	Open up Lake Keilambete to the public as a tourist attraction, Promote as tourist attraction	3	1	2	11	COMMUNITY/ SHIRE PARTNERSHIP
5		TOILETS SECURITY	Implement security measures at the town centre toilets (eg lighting, video surveillance, signage, etc.)				9	VICTORIA POLICE/ COMMUNITY/ CORANGAMITE SHIRE COUNCIL
6	6	STREET LIGHTING	More lighting around the town, Lighting of intersections	4	9	-	8	CORANGAMITE SHIRE/ VICROADS
7	8	AVENUE PLANTINGS	Succession planting of trees in the avenue, including filling present gaps, Update trees in the avenue, Keep avenues cut more often, Extend tree plantings on approaches to town, Extend indigenous plantations	5	5	-	7	CORANGAMITE SHIRE COUNCIL
8		TOURIST BROCHURE	Develop a pamphlet on 'things to see and do' in Noorat				7	COMMUNITY PROJECT WITH SHIRE AND GORRT

P2 means priority in 2017, P1 means priority in 2013, S1 means survey mentions 2013 (N = 29), V1 means votes 2103 (N = 24), G means 'gold' top voter priority in 2013, and V2 means votes in 2017 (N = 29)

1 *Mount Noorat Walking Track*

This remains Noorat's highest priority. Mount Noorat heads the list of the most valued assets of the township and there is a palpable excitement within the Noorat community over the prospective transfer of the Mount into public ownership through the generous bequest of the Niel Black Estate. Work on the upgrading of the Walking Track was completed as an early project in the Noorat Plan, however there is strong interest in further developing the Walking Track, potentially with picnic facilities, fixing the hut and other trail developments. It was noted that a management plan for the site would be an early priority for the Committee of Management (whatever form that takes) to balance the various interests in accordance with the confirmed objectives for this highly significant and cherished place. It can also be noted that this priority may have greater community support than indicated through the voting process, as some members consider that the achievement of this priority is 'already in hand' and therefore applied their limited 'votes' to other priorities.

2 *Playground improvements*

There is a strong feeling within Noorat that the playground (in the median strip next to the public toilets) should be developed and extended to generate more and longer stop-overs in the town. The meeting was made aware of Council's 'one town – one playground' policy and asked whether or not this should become the town's main playground (rather than the one at the recreation reserve), but unanimously said 'no' to that idea. It was therefore noted that community representatives would need to make representations to their Councillors for a change in Council's policy if this priority is to have any life. A further point of consideration is the interest in developing a different type of playground at the site – a 'nature play' type facility which does not have commercial equipment structures but natural materials upon which to play and with which to interact.

3 Public Art

There is an appetite for more public art in Noorat, based on the highly successful project completed in 2016, added to by a recent private gift of a second piece – an ‘eagle’ sculpture to complement ‘the nest’.

4 Open Lake Keilambete

This elevated priority links in with the work with the GORRT authority to develop a new ‘Volcanic Lakes and Plains’ tourism region, based on a brand strategy capitalising on direct experience of the region’s volcanic legacy. This priority was also included in the Terang Community Plan. There is a public access easement on the north side of the lake, which has an interesting social history prior to the construction of the Terang Swimming Pool.

5 Toilets Security

The local community has raised this matter with Victoria Police. Members are keen to see some security measures put in place to address recent reported behaviours.

6 Street lighting

Whereas the requested additional lighting at the intersection of Mackinnons Bridge and Glenormiston roads has been installed, some community members still hold concerns about safety at other major intersections.

7 Avenue plantings

Succession planting, additional avenue plantings and increasing the number of plantings of indigenous trees on the approaches to Noorat have all been proposed.

8 Tourist brochure

This priority fits with current work regarding online promotion of the ‘Volcanic Lakes and Plains’ region, in partnership with GORRT and Corangamite Shire. Noorat has been actively represented on the Reference Group for that project over the past year.

9 Town promotion strategy

It is widely recognised that ‘product development’ needs to occur across the northern parts of the Shire to support tourism development, but that an incremental process of tourism development can occur building on a range of local initiatives. This priority will receive consideration and support through the partnership with GORRT, but again rely on local initiatives to give effect to the broader strategy.

10 Tree maintenance on Blacks Drive

Further to the work undertaken by the Shire a few years back, the community holds the view that further maintenance work needs to be carried out on these trees.

11 Rare Trades Festival

Building on the new Noorat Town Market, an annual Festival is proposed for Noorat. As with the Market initiative, this proposal will rely upon local support to establish.

12 Glenormiston

The meeting heard from two attendees about plans for a range of educational activities at Glenormiston which are expected to be announced shortly. There is still strong support for something to be done about the underutilisation of this asset, although the priority ranking has slipped somewhat in the current review.

13 *Hard rubbish collection*

The idea for a once-a-year hard rubbish collection was elevation in the priority ratings.

14 *'Public Hall'*

As Noorat does not have a 'public hall', and as the Noorat Scouts have gone into recess, the community wonders whether support might be made available for the operation and maintenance of the Noorat Scout Hall as the town's Public Hall.

P2	P1	PROJECT		S1	V1	G1	V2	AGENCY
9		TOWN PROMOTION STRATEGY	Develop a town promotion/ communications strategy				7	COMMUNITY PROJECT WITH SHIRE AND GORRT
10		TREES ON BLACKS DRIVE	Undertake maintenance work on trees in 'Lovers Lane',				7	CORANGAMITE SHIRE COUNCIL
11		RARE TRADES FESTIVAL	Develop a rare/ lost trades festival event				7	COMMUNITY PROJECT WITH SHIRE
12	7	GLENORMISTON COLLEGE	Offer more at Glenormiston College, Promote Glenormiston College	2	6	2	6	SWTAFE/ STATE GOVERNMENT
13	20	HARD RUBBISH COLLECTION	Some form of hard waste collection (maybe once a year), Twice a year hard rubbish day	3	3	-	6	CORANGAMITE SHIRE COUNCIL
14		PUBLIC HALL SUPPORT	Seek support for funding and maintenance of Public Hall/ Scout Hall				6	COMMUNITY/ SHIRE PARTNERSHIP
15	11	DIRECTIONAL SIGNAGE	A big glassed-in signage providing direction and telling information about walking track to crater, Allan Marshall precinct, Recreation Complex and new Fire Station, Directional signage to Recreation Reserve and children's playground	2	5	-	4	COMMUNITY PROJECT WITH VICROADS
16		TRAFFIC ISLAND MAINTENANCE	Clear weeds/ vegetation growing on traffic islands at the entry to Glenormiston College				4	CORANGAMITE SHIRE COUNCIL
17	13	PROMOTE HISTORY	Promote history of Noorat and district	1	5	2	3	COMMUNITY PROJECT

P2 means priority in 2017, P1 means priority in 2013, S1 means survey mentions 2013 (N = 29), V1 means votes 2103 (N = 24), G means 'gold' top voter priority in 2013, and V2 means votes in 2017 (N = 29)

The remaining project ideas on Noorat's priority list attracted a limited number of votes this time round. They are included here as they weren't struck out initially and they complete the picture in terms of the current voting pattern. As mentioned previously, it remains open for interested people to take inspiration from these ideas and pursue them where opportunities are created or present themselves.

P2	P1	PROJECT		S1	V1	G1	V2	AGENCY
18	3	MORE FOOTPATHS	More footpaths, Create footpaths for mobility, A walking trail from town centre to Scanlon's Rural Store, past Lake Lolly and Primary School	6	11	1	2	CORANGAMITE SHIRE COUNCIL
19	17	RE-PURPOSE BUTTER FACTORY	Develop butter factory, Put the old butter factory to some use, Turn old factory into a dairy museum from horse and cart deliveries to the present	4	-	-	2	PRIVATE BUSINESS INTEREST OR SOCIAL ENTERPRISE
20	25	SEALING OF ROADS	Upgrade unfinished roads to beautify the town, Sealing road section from 23 Terang road to Terang-Mortlake Road	2	3	2	2	CORANGAMITE SHIRE COUNCIL
	27	CHURCH FENCE	Install new fence around the Presbyterian Church, fence needs fixing	3	-	-	2	COMMUNITY GROUP/ CHURCH COUNCIL?
	14	UPGRADE TOILETS AT RESERVE	Upgrade toilets at Recreation Reserve	1	5	-	1	COMMUNITY GROUP/ RESERVE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT?
	9	SPEED LIMITS	Enforcement of speed limits, Road safety for schools, relocate speed restriction signs further out of town,	5	4	-	1	VICROADS/ STATE GOVERNMENT
	16	SEAL BLACKS LANE	Seal Blacks Lane to prevent bumpiness, Seal Blacks Drive,	2	4	-	1	CORANGAMITE SHIRE COUNCIL
	18	TOWN SLOGAN	Noorat needs a new 'town slogan'	1	4	1	1	COMMUNITY PROJECT
	10	MOBILE PHONE RECEPTION/ NBN	Improve mobile phone reception in town	3	5	1	-	COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT AND PROVIDERS
	23	ATTRACT MORE YOUNG PEOPLE	Encourage more young people to come and live in Noorat so that schools will grow, Attract more children to the State School	3	1	-	-	?

P2 means priority in 2017, P1 means priority in 2013, S1 means survey mentions 2013 (N = 29), V1 means votes 2103 (N = 24), G means 'gold' top voter priority in 2013, and V2 means votes in 2017 (N = 29)

Policy and Legislative Context

The Council Plan 2017-2021 outlines Corangamite Shire's community planning initiative (Pages 10 and 11) and describes how, over the past six years, it has systematically surveyed local residents and assisted them to develop Community Plans. Recognising the many benefits of community planning and supporting its delivery, the new Council Plan includes a 'commitment to support Council's Community Planning Program' under its Theme 4 Objective to 'Engage with and listen to our communities' (Page 23), and under the Theme 1 Objective to 'Advocate strongly in relation to . . . community priorities' (Page 13).

Importantly, the Noorat Community Plan review process contributes to Council's Vision: 'We strive for a thriving and connected community' (Page 4) and gives expression to Council's Values of Respect, Innovation and Collaboration (Page 8).

Internal / External Consultation

Consultation and engagement activities to review Noorat's 10-year community plan began with the seeking of advice through meetings of the Noorat and District Residents Association, where decisions were made on process and timelines. An A5 printed flyer 'What next for Noorat?' was sent to Noorat households through the local Post Office and the seeking of advice through meetings of the Noorat and District Residents Association, where decisions were made on process and timelines.

An A5 printed flyer 'What next for Noorat?' was sent to Noorat households through the local Post Office and distributed at The Shed, in addition to social media posts and word-of-mouth advice by local community members. A Facebook post by Corangamite Shire attracted 270 post clicks and 52 likes and shares.

Post Details Reported stats may be delayed from what appears on posts X

Corangamite Shire Council
Published by Brooke Comms [?] · June 19 at 2:22pm ·

A lot of things have changed for Noorat since the town's community plan was prepared back in 2013.

Four years on, the time has come to review it. Everyone with an interest in Noorat is invited to come along and contribute their thoughts, and to vote on the revised list of township priorities.

What next for

NOORAT?

When: Tuesday 20 June 2017
Time: From 7:30 pm to 9 pm
Where: Noorat Scout Hall

✔ **Get More Likes, Comments and Shares**
Boost this post for \$4 to reach up to 1,300 people.

3,397 people reached Boost Post

👤 Siobhan Staunton, Ellen Cotterill and 16 others 2 Shares

👍 Like 💬 Comment ➦ Share

3,397 People Reached

52 Likes, Comments & Shares

41 Likes	18 On Post	23 On Shares
4 Comments	0 On Post	4 On Shares
7 Shares	2 On Post	5 On Shares

270 Post Clicks

28 Photo Views	0 Link Clicks	242 Other Clicks
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NEGATIVE FEEDBACK

0 Hide Post	1 Hide All Posts
0 Report as Spam	0 Unlike Page

A total of 24 people attended the Public Meeting on 20 June 2017, a similar level of participation as in June 2013, but with a number of new people involved (representing a wider demographic). In deliberating over the business of the evening, some community members were able to learn more about the community planning process and the about the efforts made by fellow community participants over the past four years.

It might also be noted that two Town Walks and other site inspections involving community-members, Councillors and Officers also provided a sound footing for the partnership formation which not only enabled collaborative planning, design, delivery and completion, but provided a means to deal effectively with some unforeseen problems and conflict resolution.

Financial and Resource Implications

This report is for information only and does not entail any recommendations relating to increased or reduced financial and other resources. The provision of more than \$50,000 in direct seed-funding by Council, \$30,000 through the Public Art program, and funds provided for footpath and lighting upgrades as well as the Retail Area Facades Improvements program has provided the impetus and the means for the local community to identify and pursue projects to strengthen the Noorat community, to build public

participation in decision-making affecting Noorat's future and to improve the liveability of the township through development projects. Noorat Community Plan priorities will be considered as part of the formulation of future Council budgets or as part of Council's advocacy programs on behalf of Corangamite Shire communities.

Conclusion

The community of Noorat has made outstanding progress over the first four years of its 10 year community plan, with works completed or proceeding on nine of the original 27 listed priorities. Importantly this includes all of the top six priorities, so that the community has achieved those things that were judged four years ago to be the most important for the town.

Along the way three other projects arose and have been completed. These are the Noorat Public Art project, a town war memorial, a new succulent garden in the Mackinnons Bridge road median strip, plus another (donated) public sculpture. These works are indicative of a strengthened capacity of the community to come together, to form partnerships and to take active steps to achieve their goals.

The completion of these projects provides unequivocal evidence of the value to communities of committing time and effort to Council's community planning initiative. This value not only relates to project outcomes for communities and for Council, but to the building of the trust which is essential to productive partnerships to enhance the liveability and prosperity of Noorat.

Information only

8.2 Review of Simpson Community Plan

Author: Garry Moorfield, Community Development Officer

File No: D17/476

Previous Council Reference: Nil

Declaration

Chief Executive Officer – Andrew Mason

In providing this advice to Council as the Chief Executive Officer, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

Author - Garry Moorfield

In providing this advice to Council as the Community Development Officer, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

Summary

A report was provided to Council at its meeting in Simpson on 28 March 2017 outlining progress in implementation of *A Plan for Simpson: Community Priorities for Township Development 2012 – 2022*, (reference D17/185). At the halfway point in Simpson's ten-year plan several of the town's high-ranking priorities have been achieved. It was noted that this is a reflection on the outstanding capability of local individuals and community groups, and the partnerships they have forged, particularly with Corangamite Shire. This report updates that advice and reports on the review of the Simpson Community Plan.

Introduction

The Simpson Plan was initially scheduled to be reviewed in 2015-2016, but it was felt that the review would garner greater participation if it followed the community celebration of the opening of the new Simpson Community Hub. This \$564,000 project is a stand-out demonstration of what can be achieved through community planning, bringing together the resources and expertise of the local community in a partnership with those of Corangamite Shire and the Victorian Government. It provides substantiation of the value of the investment of time, effort and trust local people contributed to the community planning process. The official opening took place on 5 March 2016, in conjunction with the annual Heytesbury Show, with some 100 people in attendance.

In April 2016, news broke on the reversal of milk price payments, producing a profound shock to the local dairy farming industry, with serious impacts on farming families, agricultural enterprises and obvious flow-on effects for the whole regional economy. Farmers, peak bodies and political representatives struggled to find practical responses to what was a catastrophic development for many, producing anger, frustration and despair. This was not the best time to be asking local people to devote their energies to a review of Simpson's community plan. The review was postponed for another year to give members of the local community time to recover.

Unlike most Corangamite communities, both Simpson and Princetown do not have a 'progress association'. Historically, in smaller communities the local progress association

generally only became active in response to some development opportunity, a community issue, or a crisis, so it was problematic to maintain interest in a standing organisation between such events. The community of Simpson has some robust community organisations (more than 20) and extremely capable organisers that span a range of these interests. The Simpson Football Netball Club, the Simpson Lions Club, the Simpson Cattlemans Club, the Simpson Bowls Club, the Kindergarten and Primary School Committees, the Simpson Community House, and the Heytesbury Show Society are some of the more prominent groups. This ability to come together and work towards a specific purpose is no better illustrated than in the conduct of the Simpson Rodeo over the past three years, attracting more than 3,000 people and raising substantial funds which have been used to pay down most of the Simpson community's contribution to the new Simpson Community Hub.

While this strong emphasis on practical action around a key interest is an outstanding strength for Simpson, on the other hand there is a gap in organisational capacity to bring human and financial resources to bear on those township priorities which do not readily align with an existing interest group. Community planning can help to bring people together, but can't bridge that gap entirely.

A series of meetings were held in the lead up to the public meeting held at the Simpson Community Hub on 24 April 2017 to review and re-set township priorities. These included two meetings at the Simpson Community Hub with local residents and representatives of community organisations, and a Town Walk associated with the Council meeting held at Simpson on 28 March 2017. The public meeting attracted 16 participants who voted upon the existing and new priorities. In all, an estimated 30 people took part in the review of the Simpson Plan across these four meetings, with some further contributions offered through Facebook.

Issues

Five of Simpson's 26 original (2012) priority projects have been completed, with another two programmed or commenced. Action has occurred relating to another three.

COMPLETED PROJECTS/ PROJECTS IN TRAIN

PRIORITY	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	AGENCY	VOTES
1	Better town entry/ welcome signage. (Design proposal completed.)	Planning underway	30
6	Move Recreation Reserve gate to Tomahawk Creek Road. (Includes sealing of Tomahawk Creek Road)	In process	18
9	Establish fully-licensed high-quality Function Centre at Recreation Reserve to cater for up 150 people	Completed	16
11	Build footpath from Bowls Corner to Kinder	Completed	14
11	Construct footpath from take-away shop to dam	In Shire plan	14
10	Rodeo and B&S type events for Simpson	Completed	15
24	Improve access to internet services	Completed	6

A further 10 priority projects were removed from the original list of 26 as either no longer relevant or not amenable to practical action. Several of these priorities related to private

business initiatives which were seen to be beyond the influence of the local community. (The investigations into the Dirt Bike Track proposal proved abortive.)

PROPOSED OBSOLETE PROJECTS / REMOVE FROM LIST*

PRIORITY	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	AGENCY	VOTES
5	Dirt bike track/ Motorbike Club		21
16	Organise media coverage on Heytesbury Settlement with website blog		9
17	Get young people involved in Simpson's future		9
18	Longer trading hours for food and fuel stops		8
19	Community Centre relocated to more central position and include tourist information/ access centre		8
20	Install zebra crossing from toilet block to ball and chain		8
21	Consolidate the housing of community organisations in combined premises/ Buy Uniting Church for community use/ More visible location		6
22	Establish Op Shop and recycling centre		6
23	Establish a sit down/ eat in Cafe/ Bakery		6
25	Better public toilets at Recreation Reserve		6

Proposals for nine (9) new priority actions were advanced and voted upon by the participants (alongside the remaining priorities from 2012) using coloured stickers to identify their top five priorities. Given that there were only half the number of participants compared to those who voted in 2013, it was not possible to disturb the top seven surviving priorities, even though four of them received little support this time round. The revised list of Simpson priorities now contains 16 items, with a further five rounding out the voting. There are four new priorities. As noted at the meeting, any group or individual is welcome to advance any of their interests or concerns regardless of these priority rankings.

PRIORITY RANKING	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	AGENCY	VOTES 2012	VOTES 2017
1	Better town entry signage/ Welcome at four entrances/exits of town highlighting services available/ Install large advertising sign to promote all functions and events/ Advertise local businesses on signboard into town / Better signage for tourist attractions/ Advertise 'Last food and fuel before 12 Apostles'	Partnership: Community/ Council/ VICROADS	30	9
2	Indoor sporting complex/ including gym, pool. (Note: Potential future Stage 2 of Community Hub)	Community	23	5
3	Make/ improve walking/ bike tracks around Simpson/ Build bush walking track through back of School	Community	17	1
4	Retain, takeover/ re-purpose Kraft Factory	Private enterprise	19	-
5	Promote gourmet food loop from Simpson end/ Promote and advertise local foods	Partnership	18	-
6	Build more/ improve footpaths/ Build footpath from Vogel's Motors to the road	Shire	14	2
7	Connect Fisher Street to <u>Murrock Street</u> as per town plans	Shire	14	3
8	Construct refuge island on the Cobden Lavers Hill Road and institute other speed restriction/ safety measures	VICROADS with Shire	-	12
9	Expand Park toilet facilities to accommodate increased tourist traffic	Shire	-	12
10	Connect to natural gas	Private enterprise	12	-
11	Advertise 'What's on at Simpson'	Community	10	5
12	More/ better street lighting (at the back of town/ central park, solar back-up)	Shire	10	3

13	Accommodation / Motel/ B& B/ Cabins/ Camping facilities/ Create caravan sites at the Football ground	Private enterprise	9	-
14	Seal <u>Murrock</u> Street to <u>Polonia</u> Road	Shire	6	1
15	Construct second entrance on Tomahawk Creek road for horse floats	Rec Reserve/ Partnership	-	6
16	Secure visiting medical services, or shuttle bus to access local medical services	State Government	-	6
	Support advocacy for 'safe driving' measures on the Great Ocean Road	Partnership	-	4
	Sand-blast and re-paint Dozer and Ball and Chain at Settlement History Reserve	Community	-	3
	Arrange for Timboon Bus to come to Simpson on a loop service	State Government	-	3
	Take steps to 'Put Simpson on the map'	Community	-	3
	Resurface netball courts at Recreation Reserve	Rec Reserve/ Partnership	-	2

Survey 2012 (N=51), Votes 2012 (N=25), Votes 2017 (N=16)

NOTE 1: Five of original 26 project priorities removed from list as completed.

NOTE 2: Ten of original 26 project priorities removed from list as no longer relevant.

NOTE 3: Four new project priorities added to form revised list of 16 current priorities.

NOTE 4: Any group or individual is welcome to take any steps they chose to advance their interests or concerns, regardless of priority rankings.

Town entry and other signage (Priority 1)

A design has been developed and quotes obtained for manufacture of CORTEN steel town entry signage on the four approaches to Simpson. The community has some Council-provided Community Plan funding reserved to finance this project, but is in need of a funding stream through which it can be leveraged. The Town Entry Signage is but one part of a larger exercise to ensure that Simpson is 'on the map', with directional and other signage pointing out services available in the town. The town's recent successful nomination as Victoria's 'Legendairy Capital' goes some way towards realising this goal (current priority 20).

Indoor sporting complex including gym and pool (Priority 2)

The planned gymnasium in the original design for the Simpson Community Hub had to be abandoned when an extra \$31K had to found within the budget for special footings to address the 'toothpaste' ground conditions. Once the community's outstanding debt on the Hub is paid off and sufficient funds accumulated the building of a small gymnasium may be able to be revisited.

Improved walking/ bike tracks (Priority 3)

This priority survives from 2012 but is in need of the School or a community group to take it on as a project.

Retain, take-over, re-purpose Kraft Factory (Priority 4)

The Kraft Factory site has been sold by Warrnambool Cheese and Butter to a private developer and expressions of interest are being considered for the potential re-purposing of the 'Factory'. One proposal put forward speaks of the creation of 50 new jobs, but these are early days. What may have been seen by some as an improbable aspiration may turn out to be closer than imagined.

Promote food loop (Priority 5)

Some steps have been taken to promote local food offerings through the 12 Apostles Food Artisans network, its Food Trail Map and the Corangamite Shire's 2017 Calendar.

Build more footpaths and improve existing ones (Priority 6)

This priority is close to being completed. The footpath from the Bowls Corner to the Kindergarten/ School has been constructed. Some patching work was done on the gravel path to the Recreation Reserve by Community Corrections workers, but this rough path needs upgrading, and a footpath from the Takeaway Shop to the Recreation Reserve is listed in Council's forward Works program. The proposed footpath from Vogel's Motors to the road has yet to be constructed, and is an important priority (especially through winter) for those obliged to leave their car there for servicing.

Connect Fisher Street to Murrock Street (Priority 7)

This priority attracted 14 votes in 2012, but only three in 2017. It was also picked up for consideration in the Town Walk.

Traffic refuge island on Cobden Lavers Hill Road (Priority 8)

A number of people on the Town Walk and on Facebook raised issues about traffic safety and speeding through the town. Some people called for a lower speed limit and illuminated speed advisory signs, yet others condemned the idea as a 'revenue raising measure'. This priority follows on from an earlier call for a zebra crossing to be installed (priority 20, 2012), but is otherwise one of four new priorities. (It will be considered by Council and/ or referred to VicRoads.)

Expand Park toilet facilities (Priority 9)

Increased use of Simpson toilet facilities was reported, as a direct product of the unsatisfactory situation applying at the Twelve Apostles site. There was other commentary on the Town Walk about managing pedestrian and vehicular traffic in relation to the park and public toilets. This new priority arises from recent increased levels of tourist visitation.

Natural gas connection (Priority 10)

No-one applied their votes to this priority this time round, perhaps in recognition of the current impracticability of executing such a proposal, yet it was agreed to have this priority remain on the list.

'What's on in Simpson?' (Priority 11)

This was priority 14 in 2012. Locals are frustrated that the town of Simpson gets left of maps – particularly tourist maps – and would like to see action taken to recognise what the town has to offer. Some see considerable capacity to secure economic advantage from the passing tourist trade. As mentioned previously, there is presently no agency based in Simpson that has a nominated responsibility to follow up priorities such as this one, and that may be one reason why no action has been taken on it since 2012.

More/ better street lighting (Priority 12)

This outstanding item from 2012 (10 votes) attracted three votes in 2017.

Accommodation (Priority 13)

There were no votes applied to this priority in 2017, yet it was left to survive on the list, having attracted nine votes in 2012.

Seal Murrock Street to Polonia Road (Priority 14)

This proposal, originally raised in 2012, was also raised on the Town Walk, but secured only one vote this time round. It is another matter for the Shire to assess.

Second entrance on Tomahawk Creek Road (Priority 15)

This new priority (for the Recreation Reserve Committee) involves a second entrance for horse floats a little further along Tomahawk Creek Road, to manage congestion and safety concerns with traffic piling back on that road to the Cobden Lavers Hill Road.

Visiting medical services (Priority 16)

This new priority relates to the lack of available transport services, especially for older people increasingly dependent on access to health and medical services. It has implications for population retention in the small township of Simpson.

Policy and Legislative Context

The Council Plan 2017-2021 outlines Corangamite Shire's community planning initiative (Pages 10 and 11) and describes how, over the past six years, it has systematically surveyed local residents and assisted them to develop Community Plans. Recognising the many benefits of community planning and supporting its delivery, the new Council Plan includes a 'commitment to support Council's Community Planning Program' under its Theme 4 Objective to 'Engage with and listen to our communities' (Page 23), and under the Theme 1 Objective to 'Advocate strongly in relation to . . . community priorities' (Page 13).

Importantly, the Simpson Community Plan review process contributes to Council's Vision: 'We strive for a thriving and connected community' (Page 4) and gives expression to Council's Values of Respect, Innovation and Collaboration (Page 8).

Internal / External Consultation

A meeting of local residents was held at the Simpson Community Centre on 21 March 2017 where a review process and timeline was mapped out. It also served to muster interested people to participate in the Town Walk with Councillors and Officers prior to the Council meeting on 28 March 2017. Fifteen local people assisted in compiling a combined list of mainly small infrastructure issues, many of which were able to be entered directly into Council's CRM system as 'work requests'. Some of the broader scale items were referred to the Plan review process.

A further Open Meeting was held at the Simpson Community Centre on 10 April 2017 with invitations sent to all local sporting clubs and community organisations. Attendance at this meeting was meagre due to power being cut off to the area for the three days prior and the need for people to attend to recovery actions. Nevertheless, a list of 'projects to be deleted' was compiled and some new ideas collected.

Participation in the Simpson Community Plan review was promoted through local and community organisations and Facebook networks, as well as advertised in the Cobden Timboon Coast times and The Standard. (A Corangamite Shire Facebook post drew 297 post clicks.)

A public meeting was held at the Simpson Community Hub on 24 April 2017 to review and re-set township priorities. This meeting attracted 16 participants who voted upon the existing and new priorities. In all, an estimated 30 people took part in the review of the Simpson Plan across these four meetings. (This figure might be closer to 50 if the Facebook participation is included.)

Post Details Reported stats may be delayed from what appears on post


Corangamite Shire Council
Published by Clare Comms Corangamite [9] · April 26 at 5:12pm

The Simpson community are currently in the process of reviewing their ten year community plan.

Some of the priorities identified as part of this review include:

- * Construct a refuge island on the Cobden Lavers Hill Road and institute other speed restriction/safety measures in the town
- * Expand the town toilet facilities to accommodate increased tourist traffic

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2,181 People Reached

36 Reactions, Comments & Shares

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10 Comments	7 On Post	3 On Shares
5 Shares	2 On Post	3 On Shares

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NEGATIVE FEEDBACK

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Get More Likes, Comments and Shares
Boost this post for \$4 to reach up to 1,400 people.

2,181 people reached Boost Post

Thomas Brian, Cheryl Morris and 12 others · 7 Comments · 2 Shares

Like · Comment · Share

Financial and Resource Implications

This report is for information only and does not entail any recommendations relating to increased or reduced financial and other resources. The provision of \$60,000 in direct seed-funding by Council has provided the impetus and the means for the local community to identify and pursue projects to strengthen the Simpson community, to build public participation in decision-making affecting Simpson’s future and to improve the liveability of the township through development projects. Simpson Community Plan priorities will be considered as part of the formulation of future Council budgets or as part of Council’s advocacy programs on behalf of Corangamite Shire communities.

Conclusion

The community of Simpson has made sound progress over the first five years of its 10 year community plan, with nine of original 26 priorities having been either completed or commenced, including seven of Simpson’s top 12 project priorities.

Simpson has a range of very capable community organisations, characterised by self-reliance and effective leadership. While this has been a support to community planning in Simpson it has also been a challenge, in that each organisation has its own separate goals and objectives. The community planning process has been rewarding for the township in terms of progress on some major projects, yet there is potential to strengthen relationships and support between groups and to build further networks which can draw more external

resources to support local initiatives. As the example of the Simpson Rodeo initiative demonstrates, there can be no questioning of local capacity to bring this about. Much essential work on planning and financing projects remains invisible to most apart from those involved, yet it is to be hoped that due recognition is given to the commitment of not only local citizens, but to Corangamite Shire, the State Government and other partners who have come together to support community priorities.

The completion of significant projects for Simpson provides unequivocal evidence of the value to communities of committing time and effort to Council's community planning initiative. This value not only relates to project outcomes for communities and for Council, but to the building of the trust which is essential to productive partnerships to enhance the liveability and prosperity of Simpson.

In common with other community plans, a key factor in the achievement of priority outcomes for Simpson has been the role played by Council in supporting the identified community aspirations, either directly, through advocacy, or through the establishment of partnerships which have contributed financial resources and expertise in project planning, design and delivery.

Information only

RECOMMENDATION

That the Information Bulletin be received.

9. PLANNING REPORTS

9.1 Planning Scheme Amendment C45 Planning Scheme Review - Consideration of Submissions

Author: Ian Gibb, Director Sustainable Development

File No: D17/465

Previous Council Reference: 23 May 2017, Item 9.1

Declaration

Chief Executive Officer – Andrew Mason

In providing this advice to Council as the Chief Executive Officer, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

Author - Ian Gibb

In providing this advice to Council as the Director Sustainable Development, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

Summary

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider submissions to Amendment C45 to the Corangamite Planning Scheme. The amendment implements the recommendations of the Planning Scheme Review, and was exhibited during February 2017. Council received twenty (20) submissions during the public exhibition period.

This item was considered at the 23 May 2017 Council meeting and was deferred for a period of two months.

As background information, Councillors have separately been provided with electronic copies of the following:

- The Planning Scheme Review report
- Amendment C45 Documentation
- A copy of each submission on the Amendment.

Introduction

Amendment C45 implements the recommendations of the Corangamite Planning Scheme Review adopted by Council in May 2016. The review recommended changes to the existing Local Planning Policy Framework (LPPF) with a new format Municipal Strategic Statement (MSS) along with alteration and improvements to local policy content.

Issues

Background - Planning Scheme Review

Council is required by legislation to undertake a review of its planning scheme every four years. The planning scheme review process commenced in July 2015 with the preparation of a Planning Scheme Review Report (The Review) which provided an assessment of the strategic importance of the Corangamite Planning Scheme and made recommendations for future strategic planning priorities. The preparation of The Review was based on consultation with stakeholders, a review of the MSS and local planning policies and review

of the strategic planning work undertaken by Council in the inter-review period. A key recommendation of the Review was the need to amend the LPPF of the Corangamite Planning Scheme to better align with State policy and provide a clearer and more contemporary strategic direction on issues including:

- agricultural land use
- small lot subdivision and rural lifestyle dwellings
- economic development and business facilitation
- urban design in township areas
- aviation and airfield management
- tourism
- land use buffers for industrial and service uses with adverse amenity potential
- resource extraction.

The findings of The Review also identified the need to ensure that recently adopted strategic work is referenced within the Corangamite Planning Scheme

Further strategic work has been identified to be undertaken which is not part of the scope of Amendment C45. Council has given priority and funding through the 2017-2018 budget to the following items:

- Rural Living Review and Strategy
- Intensive Animal Husbandry
- Additional use of VicSmart.

It is not intended that Amendment C45 address these matters.

Amendment C45

Council resolved to seek authorisation from the Minister for Planning to prepare and exhibit Amendment C45 in August 2016. Amendment C45 was placed on public exhibition between 28 January and 8 March 2017.

Twenty (20) submissions have been received to the Amendment. A copy of the submissions have been provided to Councillors.

Of the 20 submissions, four (4) support the amendment in its current form, whilst the remaining 16 have requested changes or objected to the amendment.

In summary, the main points raised within the submissions are:

- Too much emphasis being placed on tourism and economic development at the expense of the environment.
- Not enough protection for the environment or the coast.
- Objectives under local planning policy on stone and gas resources should exclude reference to gas resources.
- MSS should be updated to include reference to high pressure gas pipelines and ensure their protection from encroachment and ongoing operation.
- Further minor changes need to be made to tourism policy.
- Supportive of the amendment as it will ensure the planning scheme aligns with Council and regional strategies.
- Local planning policy won't adequately control development.
- Insufficient stakeholder/community consultation on the amendment.
- Amendment is not policy neutral.
- Consider implementation of land use buffers around industrial developments.
- Changes aren't clear and should be presented in tracked changes.
- Further public consultation should occur on the amendment.

- Greater reference in the LPPF to bushfire and flood risk.
- Greater flexibility should be given for rural subdivision and dwellings in the LPPF.

The main themes raised in the submissions that request changes to the amendment relate to environmental controls, tourism and economic development policy, gas resources, environmental risk, rural subdivision and the amendment process and documentation.

Environmental controls

Five submissions requested changes to be made to the documentation in relation to environment controls and policy. These submitters felt that the amendment lacked consideration of the impacts development has on the environment and consequently local planning policies on the environment must be strengthened particularly in relation to natural resource protection and managing environmental risks such as coastal hazards and the impacts of climate change. Some submitters considered there is lack of adherence to existing environmental policies relating to coastal development.

Tourism and economic development policy

Tourism and economic development policy were raised by seven submitters with five submitters believing that the amendment places too much emphasis on growth and economics and the promotion of tourism development at the expense of the environment and local community. Further controls on what and where tourism development should go were also raised by four of these submitters as they felt that greater discretion in planning decisions will lead to ad hoc development.

In contrast, two other submitters believed the amendment did not go far enough in supporting appropriate tourism development and recommended further emphasis should be placed on the implementation of the Shipwreck Coast Master Plan and Strategic Masterplan Great Ocean Road Region Visitor Economy 2015-2025 as well as the provision of clearer pathways for supporting tourism development.

Gas resources

Two submitters requested changes to the local planning policy on gas and stone resources (Clause 21.05-4). One submitter requested the policy be updated to acknowledge the presence of high pressure transmission gas pipelines and that these pipelines be protected from encroachment of activities that may affect their operation. This submitter also recommended the amendment consider the recommendations within the advisory report on Major Hazard Facilities. Another submitter has requested the removal of any reference to gas resources within the MSS as the submitter believes council should be encouraging the move away from gas resources and towards more renewable energy systems in order to reduce CO2 emissions.

Environmental risk

Four submitters, all of which were referral authorities recommended various changes to the amendment relating to a range of environmental risks. The CFA recommended that more explicit linkages in the LPPF were made to the State Planning Policy Framework (SPPF) to ensure future development does not increase bushfire risk and future development is directed to locations of lower bushfire risk.

Wannon Water and the EPA both submitted that buffers could be considered around industrial developments and wastewater plants to protect industrial land uses from encroachment by sensitive land uses.

The CCMA recommend minor changes to the wording of strategies and objectives relating to flooding and waterway buffers to ensure waterways are protected from development and development is compatible with flood hazard.

Rural subdivision

Ensuring the amendment does not prohibit rural subdivision and rather encourages it to occur was raised by three submitters. All these submitters stated that there needs to be a balance between retaining agricultural land and allowing flexibility for landowners to sell land or dwellings that are either in excess to their requirements, required to enable the purchase of other land or for succession planning.

These submitters stated there should be greater discretion for rural subdivision and there should be a new policy direction that supports the creation of smaller lots in rural zones. Furthermore the submitters recommended each rural subdivision should be assessed on its own merits as preventing excision of dwellings is inappropriate and counterproductive for the future of the area.

Amendment process and documentation

Five submitters raised issues in relation to the amendment process and the format of the documentation. All these submitters felt that insufficient community consultation had occurred in drafting the documentation with two submitters stating that the documents which support the amendment were not supported by the community. Four of these submitters believe the amendment isn't policy neutral and involves major changes to the planning scheme, whilst two submitters stated that that amendment does not provide fair, orderly or sustainable use and development of land. Two submitters found the amendment documentation repetitive and unclear and requested the amendment be shown in tracked changes so it is clear what has been changed.

Submissions in support of the proposal have generally focussed on the importance of aligning the planning scheme with the SPPF and the shire and regions strategies.

Deputations at May Council Meeting

At the May 2017 Council meeting there were three deputations in relation to Amendment C45. These were from the authors of submissions numbered 12, 13 and 19.

The matters raised by these submitters concerned:

- a) Gas and the proposed provisions of Clause 21.05-4.
- b) Tourism development and environmental protection with specific reference to Princetown.
- c) Rural Subdivision.

The following section of this report considers each of these three topics, and provides information on:

- the current planning scheme provisions;
- the key outcomes of the planning scheme review;
- the relevant content of Amendment C45;
- the matters raised in the submission; and
- recommended changes to the drafting of the amendment in response to the submission.

Stone and Gas Resources

Current Provisions

The State Planning Policy Framework (SPPF) at Clause 14.03 provides state policy around resource exploration and extraction, including providing for the long term protection of natural resources and providing the opportunity for exploration and extraction of natural resources where this is consistent with overall planning considerations and application of acceptable environmental practice. The Local Policy Planning Framework (LPPF) is intended to give expression to the range of state policy issues identified in the SPPF.

The current Corangamite Planning Scheme Local Policy Planning Framework (LPPF) at Clause 21.04-3 acknowledges the existence of local gas resources, and that the location of reserves has encouraged the location of gas processing facilities within the Shire, and the potential for local economic benefit arising from these facilities. The current LPPF does not address stone resource specifically.

The Planning Scheme Review

The Planning Scheme Review identified the need to:

- Provide policy direction protecting land use buffers around industrial, gas plant and service infrastructure such as waste water treatment plant.
- Provide improved policy direction in relation to the protection of future stone and gas resources including mechanisms to protect land identified for future resource extraction.

The proposed Amendment C45 Clause 21.05-4 includes expanded policy provisions relating to stone and gas resources. Specifically it includes the following objectives:

- To promote the sustainable extraction of natural resources (New).
- To facilitate the establishment of natural gas processing and storage facilities (Current Clause 21.04-3).
- To ensure the safe and effective operation of natural gas processing and storage facilities (Current Clause 21.04-3).
- To identify and protect land for future resource extraction (New).
- To protect gas processing facilities from encroachment by sensitive land uses (New).

Amendment C45 makes no changes to current strategies in relation to gas and stone resources. It identifies the need for further strategic work to identify and protect land required for future resource extraction, and to investigate options to provide land use buffers around gas plant facilities.

Consideration of Submission 12

Submission 12 is seeking that Amendment C45 delete reference to gas, and that the provision of Amendment C45 relate specifically to stone resource only. The basis of this request is that the *Victorian Climate Change Act 2017* includes a long-term target for Victoria of net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, and it is the submitter's view that to achieve this target there is a need to rapidly switch investment away from gas to renewables.

The submission is not supported for the following reasons:

- Corangamite Shire already has existing gas processing facilities which are an important economic contributor to the region and the State.
- There is a need for local planning policy to better recognise the need to protect gas processing plants from encroachment by sensitive uses.

- Council has indicated support for future conventional gas exploration in the future. However this will depend on the outcomes of The Victorian Gas Program which is currently scheduled to run from 2017 to mid-2020.

Consideration of changes to Amendment C45

It is recommended there be no change in Amendment C45 prior to the Panel consideration of the Amendment in response to this submission.

Tourism and Environmental Protection

Current Provisions

The State Planning Policy Framework (SPPF) at Clause 17 provides state policy around economic development providing for a strong and innovative economy, where all sectors of the economy are critical to economic prosperity. Clause 17.03-1 provides state policy around facilitating tourism, encouraging tourism development to maximise employment and long-term economic, social and cultural benefits of developing the state as a competitive domestic and international tourist destination.

Clause 12 of the SPPF provides for environmental and landscape values. Clause 12.02-2 allows for the appropriate development of coastal areas, with an objective to ensure that development conserves, protects and seeks to enhance coastal biodiversity and ecological values. Clause 12.02-4 encourages coastal tourism at suitably located and designed coastal and marine tourism opportunities. Clause 12.02-6 provides state policy to manage the sustainable development of the Great Ocean Road region.

Clause 13.01 of the SPPF considers environmental risk, including planning for possible sea level rise of 0.8 metres by 2100, and references the *Victorian Coastal Strategy 2014*.

The current Local Planning Policy Framework (LPPF) acknowledges that tourism forms a significant and growing part of the shire's economic base. The LPPF also provides for the landscape, the natural attractions along the coastline, with significant landscape features. Clause 22.02 provides for the environment whilst Clause 22.04 addresses particular use and development. Clause 22.03-4 provides for tourism use and development, applying to applications proposing the use and development of land for tourism purposes, being tourism opportunity sites.

There is currently little strategic guidance in the Municipal Strategic Statement about tourism and the local policy at Clause 22.03-4 is largely confined to the 16 Tourism Opportunity Sites. Opportunities to improve policy direction in general, specifically having regard to the changes made to Victoria Planning Provisions (VPP) Rural Zones in September 2013 which allow for a broader range of tourism related uses to be considered within the Rural Conservation and Farming Zones. A specific recommendation of the Planning Scheme Review was to provide expanded policy direction on tourism beyond the identified tourism opportunity sites.

The Planning Scheme Review

Planning Scheme Review identified the need:

- For a stronger policy direction to support tourism and tourism based activities (Clause 21.05-2) with protections for the operation of rural industries; and
- To include the Shipwreck Coast Master Plan as a reference document.

Proposed Amendment C45

Amendment C45 is seeking to strengthen local planning policy relating to tourism. This is consistent with the increasing importance of the visitor economy to the future of Corangamite Shire; the need to facilitate implementation of the Shipwreck Coast Master

Plan and the two Destination Management Plans prepared by Great Ocean Road Regional Tourism (GORRT).

It is also important to acknowledge that the policy needs to be responsive to the 2013 State Government reform of the Rural Zones which allowed for a broader range of tourism related uses in Rural Zones. This change occurred after the approval of Amendment C30 which resulted in the identification of specific Tourism Opportunity sites, and the introduction of the current local planning policy which is focused on these sites.

The MSS Clause 21.05-2 Tourism is strengthened to include the following strategies:

- Provide a range of accommodation options, activities, experiences and events that encourage people to stay for longer periods. [Shipwreck Coast Master Plan, Tourism Opportunities Study, Deakin Study].
- Support the diversification of the tourism activities. [Shipwreck Coast Master Plan, Tourism Opportunities Study].
- Ensure that tourism activities provide for sustainable resource management. [NEW].
- Support tourism-based activities that reflect the character, heritage and uniqueness of the Shire's townships. [NEW].
- Support the development of accommodation and tourist product in accordance with the Shipwreck Coast Master Plan and the Strategic Master Plan for the Great Ocean Road Region Visitor Economy 2015-2025. [NEW, Shipwreck Coast Master Plan].
- Facilitate the development of an agri-tourism base throughout the Shire. [NEW].
- Support the integration of tourist and agricultural activities where they complement the operation of the agricultural and related industries. [NEW, Deakin Study, Tourism Opportunities Study].
- Support tourism development where it can be demonstrated that the development achieves the following attributes:
 - Provides an economic benefit for the region.
 - Encourages the growth of the tourism sector in the Shire.
 - Preserves land of high scenic quality.
 - Can be appropriately serviced by infrastructure.
 - Are of a high quality design.
 - Recognises the importance of the natural and built environment.
 - Is sensitively designed and located in the landscape to avoid adverse visual impacts.
 - Does not compromise the attraction to tourism opportunity sites. [NEW]

Provisions relating to environmental risk are at Clause 21.04-3 of Amendment C45.

The objectives and strategies are as follows.

Objectives:

- To ensure the risks to life and property from bushfire are appropriately managed. [*Current: Clause 21.04*]
- To ensure that the use and development of land in areas prone to erosion does not cause significant ground disturbance. [*Current: Clause 22.02-2, slightly reworded*]
- To protect areas prone to soil erosion by minimising earthworks and vegetation loss. [*Current: Clause 22.02-2, slightly reworded*]
- To ensure that land use and development of land prone to flooding minimises the effects of inundation.

Strategies:

- Implement appropriate planning controls to minimise impacts from environmental risks and to reduce the threat to life and property.
- Ensure that environmental risks, constraints and hazards are fully considered in proposals for the use, development and subdivision of land.
- Avoid rezoning and development of land for urban purposes where there is a high risk of bushfire or flood.
- Ensure that areas prone to flooding are properly identified and considered to limit the potential for unsuitable development.
- Implement bushfire risk assessment and mitigation measures to reduce the overall risk to communities and protect human life and property.
- Avoid ground disturbance on land subject to erosion.

Consideration of Submission 13

The submitter is seeking extensive changes to Clause 13 Environmental Risks, Clause 21.04-3 Natural Resource Management, Clause 21.04-4 Catchments Waterways and Wetlands and 21.05 Economic Development. The submitter is of the view that the amendment inappropriately prioritises tourism development objectives and that there is an express bias toward tourism development at the expense of other values.

The submitter is seeking increased environmental protections; and specifically that Amendment C45 is drafted to strengthen environmental considerations in relation to future tourism applications, and that current tourism policy not be modified unless more detailed tourism management plans are in place. The specific suggestion of the submitter are as follows:

- Municipal Profile –Seeks reference to “nationally significant environmental resources and sensitive coastal eco-systems”
- Regional Profile – Seeking that “the encroachment of tourism development onto areas with high environmental values, and sensitive ecosystems or environmental conditions should be limited whilst encouraging such developments onto land of lower environmental, community and agricultural values”.
- Under Clause 21.03 Environmental and Natural Resource Management seeking an additional point “Sensitively managing tourism expansion to protect areas of environmental significance and sensitivity, and to ensure that established communities are not disrupted, nor the current community amenities redesignated as tourism destinations, thus pushing out the local community capacity to utilise environmental and natural resources”.
- Under Clause 21.04-2 Landscapes seeking additional clause “to protect the landscape, geological, environmental and scientific significance of undeveloped coastal area such as the flood plain, wetlands, estuary and marine park at Princetown”.
- In clause 21.04-3 Environmental Risk seeking the inclusion of “overuse of some areas by the large (2.6million) number of tourists to certain areas”.
- In clause 21.04-3 Seeking inclusion of reference to a “Strategy for tourism management in order to maximise the tourism experience and minimise negative effects of the environment, wildlife, aquatic life and local communities”.
- Seeking changes to Objectives in Clause 21.04-3
 - To ensure the risks to life and property from bushfire and flood are appropriately managed
 - To avoid the development of land prone to flooding
- Seeking Changes to Strategies as follows
 - Implement appropriate planning controls to avoid impacts from environmental risks and to reduce the threat to life and property

- Avoid rezoning or development of land for urban purposes where there is a high risk of bushfire or flood
- Ensure that areas prone to flooding as properly identified to avoid the potential for unsuitable development.
- Seeking that Clause 21.04-4 Catchments, waterways and Wetlands include “Require that new development be located and undertaken in a manner that poses no risk to wetlands, water catchments and water quality”

In relation to Clause 21.05 Economic Development, the submitter is seeking that the Shire develop specific objectives and implementation plans regarding tourism management and this needs to be included before any changes are submitted under the C45 revision. It is the submitters view that if this is not possible then this sections should remain unchanged until a proper review and council consultation is conducted.

Consideration of changes to Amendment C45

In response to the submission regarding economic development the following points are made:

- It is appropriate in the context of the findings of both the Scheme Review and the likely future economic importance of tourism to Corangamite Shire, that tourism policy be strengthened in the local planning policy framework.
- Permit applications for tourism uses can be made in the Farming Zone and Rural Conservation Zone, and so it is therefore inappropriate that future policy focus only on Amendment C30 Tourism Opportunity sites.
- There is a need to ensure that recent Strategic work (e.g. Shipwreck Coast Master Plan, GORRT Destination Management Plan, Economic Development Strategy) are included as reference documents in Clause 21.08
- There is already a body of strategic planning work to guide consideration for future permit applications for future tourism development and use.

In response to the submissions concerning environmental matters, the following changes to strengthen reference to environmental protections could be achieved by:

- Including reference to “nationally significant environmental resources and sensitive coastal eco-systems” in the Municipal Profile
- At Clause 21.03 Key Issues – Environmental and Natural Resource Management
Reword the first dot point to read
‘Protecting sensitive coastal and volcanic landscapes and preserving remnant vegetation where feasible’
- At Clause 21.05-2 Objectives, reword the second objective to read
‘To sustainably manage regionally significant tourism attractions such as the Great Ocean Road, lakes, waterways and volcanic cones’.
- Making changes to reword objectives in Clause 24.01-3 as follows:
 - To ensure the risks to life and property from bushfire and flood are appropriately managed.
 - To discourage development of land prone to flooding, and ensure that the risk of inundation including local factors such as sea surge and river estuary conditions (noting that estuaries are sometimes artificially managed) be considered in relation to future use and development of land.

It is not considered necessary to make further changes to the Strategies under Clause 21.04-3 in relation to Environmental Risk as Amendment C45 includes a number of new strategies which are not contained in the current scheme. Similarly the application of zones

and overlays gives added emphasis to the use of Overlays in relation to managing risks associated with fire and flood.

Rural Subdivision and dwellings in rural zones

Current Provisions

The SPPF at Clause 14 places a strong emphasis on the protection for agricultural land. It is State Policy that in considering a proposal to subdivide or develop agricultural land the following factors must be considered:

- The desirability and impacts of removing the land from primary production, given its agricultural productivity.
- The impacts of the proposed subdivision or development on the continuation of primary production on adjacent land, with particular regard to the land values and to the viability of infrastructure for such production.
- The compatibility between the proposed or likely development and the existing uses of the surrounding land.
- Assessment of the land capability.
- Subdivision of productive agricultural land should not detract from the long term productive capacity for the land.

The current LPPF recognises that Corangamite Shire has large areas of highly productive agricultural land and the importance of agriculture to the local economy. Local Economic Development Policy at Clause 21.04-3 includes a section on Agriculture. This includes the identification of issues and objectives, but there is little policy guidance provided in relation to subdivision, house lot excisions and dwellings in the rural zones.

Councils approach has been to discourage subdivision or excision of small lots where there is no existing dwelling, but to more favourably consider small lot subdivision /excision where there is an existing dwelling. Since January 2104, there have been 23 permits granted for subdivisions that allow the excision of existing dwellings on small lots within the Farming Zone and Rural Conservation Zone. During that time, no permit applications for excision of a dwelling have been refused.

The Planning Scheme Review

The Planning Scheme Review identified the need to provide policy direction within the LPPF on facilitating agriculture and protecting the 'right to farm', on small lot subdivision and on rural lifestyle dwellings.

Changes to Farming Zone in VC103 in 2013 no longer require that dwellings be connected with a substantive agricultural purpose. Fragmentation and subdivision of productive agricultural land is also contrary to State planning policy.

The previous Council through The Planning Scheme Review process identified the need to strengthen policy in relation to the protection. of agricultural land use in the Farming Zone and Rural Conservation Zone.

Proposed Amendment C45

Clause 22.01 relates to Rural Dwellings and Subdivision, and applies to land which is zoned Farming Zone and Rural Conservation Zone.

Additional objectives have been included being:

- To provide for the retention of productive agricultural land for farming
- To encourage the consolidation of agricultural land to support farming activity
- To ensure the location and siting of dwellings does not compromise surrounding farming activities.

The Amendment is then structured to include policy relating to subdivision and dwellings.

Subdivision

The policy for subdivision is as follows:

When considering a permit application for any subdivision it is policy that:

- The subdivision will enhance farm consolidation or trading of lots between farms
- The subdivision will not adversely impact on the ability to use the land for agriculture
- The subdivision must not increase the potential for future dwellings. When considering a planning permit application to excise a lot containing a dwelling it is policy that:
 - The purpose of the excision is to facilitate farm consolidation;
 - It can be demonstrated that farming can be continued on the balance lot unhindered;
 - The dwelling is not required for the farming use of the property;
 - The benefit of removing the dwelling from the land outweighs the risk of having a residential land use adjoining a farming property in terms of supporting agriculture;
 - The balance lot should meet the minimum lot size requirement specified in the schedule to the zone;
 - The dwelling is in a habitable condition;
 - The dwelling and immediate surrounds should be a maximum of 1ha;
 - The excised lot should not include significant farm infrastructure;
 - The dwelling is at the front of the property and long narrow lots or battle axe lots are discouraged;
 - The dwelling is serviced by a sealed road or a rural gravel access road; and
 - A Section 173 Agreement under the Planning and Environment Act 1987 must be entered into that prevents the construction of a dwelling on the residual lot other than if it meets the requirements specified in the schedule to the zone.

When considering a planning permit application to realign boundaries, it is policy that:

- Proposals for re-aligning boundaries are only permitted for the purpose of making minor adjustments such as responding to topographical or public infrastructure features, except where the re-alignment will support more productive agricultural outcomes (particularly through farm consolidation).

Dwellings

It should be noted that the policy relating to dwelling applies in the Farming Zone only. This is because the requirements for dwelling in the Rural Conservation Zone are more tightly prescribed in the Zone provisions.

It is policy that:

When considering a planning permit application to construct a dwelling in the Farming Zone the following requirements should be met:

- The dwelling should be necessary to support the ongoing or planned farming activity on the land and any adjacent land;
- The dwelling should be in conjunction with the use of the land and any adjacent land for farming;
- A Section 173 Agreement under the Planning and Environment Act 1987 should be applied that prevents:
 - The subdivision of the lot containing the dwelling if it less than the minimum specified in the schedule to the Zone; and

- The development of further dwellings on other contiguous lots in the same ownership which are less than the minimum dwelling lot size requirements of the Zone. The permit application for the dwelling should include all such lots including lots that may or may not be directly adjoining the primary lot and the agreement should be applied to each lot.
- An agreement under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* may also be required to acknowledge the possible off-site impacts caused to dwelling occupiers from nearby agricultural activities.
- An application to use a lot for a dwelling must be accompanied by a written statement which explains how the proposed dwelling responds to the policy framework, the decision guidelines for dwellings in the Farming Zone and it should detail the following:
 - Why there is a need to live on site and how that would assist in agricultural production;
 - A layout of agricultural uses on the property which must demonstrate that the majority of the property is to be used for farming.

Consideration of Submission 19

Submission 19 is premised on Council supporting creation of smaller parcels of land in the Rural Zones; allowing flexibility in relation to excision and consolidation of land and protecting the current land subdivision pattern.

Specific changes which are sought to the amendment include:

- Minor changes to Objectives in Clause 21.03-2 (rewording of objective 3 and deletion of objective 6).
- Deletion of the Strategy “Avoid rural residential development and subdivision on productive agricultural land unless it can be demonstrated that it is required to maintain the productive agricultural use of land”.
- Greater flexibility for variation to the Infrastructure Design Manual at Clause 21.06.
- Revision of the Policy Basis for Clause 22.01 Rural Dwellings and Subdivision, and specifically deletion of reference to consolidation of lots..
- Deletion of the second objective at Clause 22.01-2 which reads “To encourage the consolidation of land to support farming activity”.
- Deletion of the term “farm consolidation” in Clause 22.01-3.
- Deletion of policy requirement in considering planning permit applications that “The purpose of the excision is to facilitate farm consolidation” and that “The balance lot should meet the minimum lot size specified in the schedule to the zone”.
- Revision of the policy requirement that the dwelling and immediate surrounds should be a minimum of 1 hectare. The submitter is seeking a 2 hectare minimum.
- Deletion of the requirement for a Section 173 Agreement to prevent the construction of a dwelling on a residual lot other than if it meets the requirements specified in the schedule to the Zone.
- Deletion of the policy relating to boundary re-alignments.

Consideration of changes to Amendment C45

The current Council is seeking to allow greater flexibility around subdivision, house lot excisions, boundary re-alignments, and the construction of dwellings in the Farming Zone. In this context the following amendments to policy requirements are recommended:

- At clause 22.01-3 when considering a permit application for any subdivision reword dot point 3 to read:
 - Consideration will be given to the potential for an increase in future dwellings and the impact on the ability to continue farming activity

- At clause 22.01-3 when considering a planning permit application to excise a lot containing a dwelling delete the following dot points:
 - The purpose of the excision is to facilitate farm consolidation;
 - The benefit of removing the dwelling from the land outweighs the risk of having a residential land use adjoining a farming property in terms of supporting agriculture;
 - The balance lot should meet the minimum lot size requirement specified in the schedule to the zone;
 - The dwelling and its immediate surrounds should be a maximum of 1 hectare;
 - The excised lot should not include significant farm infrastructure;
 - A Section 173 Agreement under the Planning and Environment Act 1987 must be entered into that prevents the construction of a dwelling on the residual lot other than if it meets the requirements specified in the schedule to the zone.

At Clause 22.01-3 delete the policy relating to considering a planning permit application to realign boundaries which reads:

- Proposals for re-aligning boundaries are only permitted for the purpose of making minor adjustments such as responding to topographical or public infrastructure features, except where the re-alignment will support more productive agricultural outcomes (particularly through farm consolidation).

At Clause 22.01-3 delete all of the policy in relation to Dwellings in the Farming Zone.

These changes if supported by Council would be put to the Panel as part of Council's submission.

Policy and Legislative Context

The *Planning and Environment Act 1987* requires all municipalities to review their planning schemes regularly. The review meets this statutory obligation and has been submitted to the Minister for Planning as required. Amendment C45 includes policy direction in accordance with the recommendations of the review and in line with State Government policy and relevant Practice Notes.

Council also has an obligation to comply with Ministerial Directions made under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*. The purpose of Direction 15 is to set times for completing steps in the planning scheme amendment process. Clause 3 of the Direction requires that the Planning Authority must request the appointment of Panel within 40 business days of the closing date for submissions unless a Panel is not required. In the case of Amendment C45, Council has not met this requirement, and Council officers have sought an exemption from the relevant part of the Ministerial Direction in relation to this particular Amendment.

Internal / External Consultation

Notification of the amendment was carried out in accordance with the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, and included notice in all local newspapers and notice in the Government Gazette. The amendment, Planning Scheme Review Report and Frequently Asked Questions Sheet was available for viewing on Council's website, at the Council offices, Corangamite Shire libraries, Skipton Post Office and Port Campbell Visitor Information Centre. In addition, six drop-in information sessions were held in various locations throughout the Shire where planning staff were available to discuss the amendment and copies of the amendment were available.

Financial and Resource Implications

Provision has been made in the 2017-2018 budget for a planning scheme amendment and associated panel costs. There are no significant ongoing financial implications for Council arising from this amendment.

Options

The options open to Council are to:

1. Abandon the Amendment.
This option is not recommended as council has a statutory obligation to complete the review of its Planning Scheme. The review process which has been undertaken to date provides a strategic basis for Amendment C45, and Amendment C45 provides a response to the key issues raised in the review. If Council were to choose this option, it would have significant resource implications. Recommencement of the process would also substantially delay updating of the Corangamite Planning Scheme.
2. Alter the amendment to satisfy all submitters and adopt the amendment.
This option is not feasible as a number of the submissions raise issues which could not be accommodated in the amendment, and Council could not meet the requirements of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* were it to proceed to adoption of the amendment at this time.
3. Redraft the amendment ahead of referring the amendment to a Panel.
This options is not recommended. Should Council require redrafting of the amendment, resulting in substantial changes which transform the amendment, it would require re-exhibition. However it would be open to Council to suggest minor drafting changes in its submission to the Panel.
4. Continue with C45 Corangamite Planning Scheme Review Amendment and request that the Minister for Planning appoint an Independent Panel and refer all submissions to the Panel for consideration.

Option 4 is the preferred option. It is recommended that Council request the Minister for Planning to appoint a Panel; refer all the submissions received to the Panel for consideration; and note the Council position in relation to each submission to be referred to the Panel. This report has recommended a number of drafting changes to the amendment. Any drafting changes agreed by Council would be put before the Panel as part of Councils written submission.

The Panel will provide advice to Council before the amendment is finalised and adopted by Council. Once the amendment is adopted it would then be forwarded to the Minister for Planning for approval.

Conclusion

Amendment C45 proposes to implement the recommendations of the Corangamite Planning Scheme Review. Twenty (20) submissions have been received as a result of the public exhibition period.

This report has identified recommended drafting changes to the amendment as a result of the consideration of key issues raised by Submitters.

The changes identified are summarised as follows:

- In the Municipal Profile include reference to “nationally significant environmental resources and sensitive coastal eco-systems”
- At Clause 21.03 Key Issues – Environmental and Natural Resource Management, reword the first dot point to read:
‘Protecting sensitive coastal and volcanic landscapes and preserving remnant vegetation where feasible’
- At Clause 21.05-2 Objectives, reword the second objective to read:
‘To sustainably manage regionally significant tourism attractions such as the Great Ocean Road, lakes, waterways and volcanic cones’.
- Reword objectives in Clause 24.01-3 as follows:
 - To ensure the risks to life and property from bushfire and flood are appropriately managed.
 - To discourage development of land prone to flooding, and ensure that the risk of inundation including local factors such as sea surge and river estuary conditions (noting that estuaries are sometimes artificially managed) be considered in relation to future use and development of land.
- At Clause 22.01-3 when considering a permit application for any subdivision reword dot point 3 to read:
 - Consideration will be given to the potential for an increase in future dwellings and the impact on the ability to continue farming activity.
- At Clause 22.01-3 when considering a planning permit application to excise a lot containing a dwelling delete the following dot points:
 - The purpose of the excision is to facilitate farm consolidation;
 - The benefit of removing the dwelling from the land outweighs the risk of having a residential land use adjoining a farming property in terms of supporting agriculture;
 - The balance lot should meet the minimum lot size requirement specified in the schedule to the zone;
 - The dwelling and its immediate surrounds should be a maximum of 1 hectare;
 - The excised lot should not include significant farm infrastructure;
 - A Section 173 Agreement under the Planning and Environment Act 1987 must be entered into that prevents the construction of a dwelling on the residual lot other than if it meets the requirements specified in the schedule to the zone.
- At Clause 22.01-3, delete the policy requirement for subdivision policy when considering a planning permit application to realign boundaries.
- At Clause 22.01-3 delete all of the policy relating to consideration of a planning permit application to construct a dwelling in the Farming Zone.

It is recommend that the Minister request to appoint a Panel in relation to Amendment C45, that all submissions be referred to the Panel; and that Council note the position to be put to the Panel in relation to each submission. Drafting changes to the Amendment in response to the submissions agreed by Council will be put before the Panel as part for Councils written submission.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Requests the Minister for Planning appoint an independent Panel under part 8 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* to consider Amendment C45
2. Refers all submissions received on Amendment C45 to the Panel for consideration.
3. Notes the Council position in relation to each submission referred to the Panel.
4. Notes the following drafting changes to Amendment C45 will be put before the Panel as part of Councils submission
 - (a) In the Municipal Profile include reference to “nationally significant environmental resources and sensitive coastal eco-systems”
 - (b) At Clause 21.03 Key Issues – Environmental and Natural Resource Management reword the first dot point to read ‘Protecting sensitive coastal and volcanic landscapes and preserving remnant vegetation where feasible’
 - (c) At Clause 21.05-2 Objectives, reword the second objective to read ‘To sustainably manage regionally significant tourism attractions such as the Great Ocean Road, lakes, waterways and volcanic cones’.
 - (d) Reword objectives in Clause 24.01-3 as follows:
 - (i) To ensure the risks to life and property from bushfire and flood are appropriately managed.
 - (ii) To discourage development of land prone to flooding, and ensure that the risk of inundation including local factors such as sea surge and river estuary conditions (noting that estuaries are sometimes artificially managed) be considered in relation to future use and development of land.
 - (e) At Clause 22.01-3 when considering a permit application for any subdivision reword dot point 3 to read
 - (i) Consideration will be given to the potential for an increase in future dwellings and the impact on the ability to continue farming activity.
 - (f) At Clause 22.01-3 when considering a planning permit application to excise a lot containing a dwelling delete the following dot points
 - (i) The purpose of the excision is to facilitate farm consolidation;
 - (ii) The benefit of removing the dwelling from the land outweighs the risk of having a residential land use adjoining a farming property in terms of supporting agriculture;
 - (iii) The balance lot should meet the minimum lot size requirement specified in the schedule to the zone;
 - (iv) The dwelling and its immediate surrounds should be a maximum of 1 hectare;
 - (v) The excised lot should not include significant farm infrastructure;

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- (vi) A Section 173 Agreement under the Planning and Environment Act 1987 must be entered into that prevents the construction of a dwelling on the residual lot other than if it meets the requirements specified in the schedule to the zone.
- (g) At Clause 22.01-3, delete the policy requirement for subdivision policy when considering a planning permit application to realign boundaries.
- (h) At Clause 22.01-3 delete all of the policy relating to consideration of a planning permit application to construct a dwelling in the Farming Zone.

Attachments

1. Attachment Summary of Submissions and Recommended Council Position Amendment C45
2. Attachment Submission Amendment C45 - Under Separate Cover
3. Attachment Amendment C45 Exhibited Documentation - Under Separate Cover

Consideration of submissions and recommended position at Panel

Council needs to consider the submissions made on the Amendment and provide guidance as to the position to be advocated before the Panel. A summary of each submission and a recommended Council position at a planning panel is provided in the table below.

Sub. no.	Summary of submission	Recommended Council position at planning panel
1	Supports amendment and raises no concerns.	Note support.
2	Supports amendment as provides clarity.	Note support
3	<p>More explicit linkages need to be made between local planning policies and state planning polices in relation to bushfire ensuring future development does not increase bushfire risk. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition of bushfire and grassfire hazard as extremely important issues within Corangamite Shire. • Reinforcing the links between the amendments and the SPPF at Clause 13.05. <p>Support direction of future development to locations of lower bushfire risk and avoiding development in locations of higher bushfire risk.</p>	<p>The following recommendations are supported:</p> <p><u>Clause 21.03-1 Township Settlement</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include the following additional objective: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ‘to ensure development is undertaken in a manner that minimises the risk to bushfire.’ • Include the following additional strategies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Direct development to locations of lower bushfire risk. ○ Avoid development in locations of extreme bushfire risk areas or in areas where the planned bushfire protection measures may be incompatible with other environmental objectives. <p><u>Clause 21.04-3 Environmental Risk</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reword first objective to ‘Ensure development is only permitted where the risk to life, property and community infrastructure from bushfire can be reduced to an acceptable level’ to better align with state policy. <p>The following recommendations are not supported as these either repeat State Policy under Clause 13, are already considered under Clause 56 and the BMO or contain too broad a strategic aim to be useful:</p> <p><i>Council should consider identifying areas outside of Port Campbell boundary where development should be avoided.</i></p> <p>It is considered that the current Structure Plan for Port Campbell and the existing zoning provisions provide a sufficiently robust framework to guide the location of future township development, given the anticipated level of likely new residential development activity.</p> <p><i>Council should consider directing growth to areas of lower bushfire risk such as Camperdown, Cobden and Terang.</i></p>

Sub. no.	Summary of submission	Recommended Council position at planning panel
		<p>It is not considered feasible to direct future development away from Timboon, Port Campbell, and Princetown. Existing Structure Plans for townships and the existing zoning provisions provide a sufficiently robust framework to guide future development given the anticipated level of likely new residential development activity.</p> <p><u>Clause 21.01-1 Municipal Profile</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include a section outlining the extensive bushfire history of the Shire. <p><u>Clause 21.01-3 Key Issues, Settlement, Built Environment and Heritage</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include a statement on future development being cognisant of bushfire risk. <p><u>Clause 21.03-2 Rural Settlement, Subdivisions and Dwellings</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include an objective to ensure subdivision and development is compatible with protection measures such as defensible space. <p><u>Clause 21.04-1 Native Vegetation and Biodiversity</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modify to include the caveat that the protection and enhancement of biological diversity does not increase the risk of bushfire. • Include a strategy that restricts development where there is a conflict between bushfire protection measures and biodiversity outcomes. <p><u>Clause 21.05-2 Tourism</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place a caveat on expanding nature based tourism that, “does not inappropriately increase population at extreme risk of bushfire”. <p><u>Clause 21.07 Local Areas</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include statements for Cobden, Lismore and Port Campbell that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Managing development within the settlement boundary and exclude further development intensification in areas of extreme bushfire risk. ○ Ensure buildings are sited, designed and constructed to reduce the risk of bushfire to human life and where possible minimise the impact on existing vegetation.

Sub. no.	Summary of submission	Recommended Council position at planning panel
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Exclude development in areas where risk to life and property cannot be managed to an acceptable level.
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The amendment should be shown in tracked changes. • Amendment isn't policy neutral and involves major changes to the planning scheme. • Insufficient community consultation has occurred. • Documents which support the changes were not supported by the community. • Amendment does not provide fair, orderly or sustainable use and development of land. • The amendment appears repetitive and is not clear how objectives will be achieved. • Changes promote tourism development without clarifying what or where it should go. • Allowing greater discretion in planning decisions will lead to ad-hoc development. • Too much emphasis has been placed on growth and economics without consideration on the potential impacts on the environment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The documentation is transparent with new content and current content clearly shown. • C45 is largely policy neutral with the documentation being successfully scrutinised for this by DELWP. • Appropriate consultation has been undertaken during the planning scheme review process and through the exhibition of Amendment C45. • All documentation relied upon for the recommendations of the Planning Scheme Review were adopted documents of Council. • The recommendations of the Planning Scheme Review and outcomes in the C45 Amendment documentation reduce repetition wherever possible. • The amendment appropriately refers to previous strategic work such as the Shipwreck Coast Master Plan and Tourism Opportunity Study. These documents provide an appropriate framework to inform policy settings, and including guidelines in relation to the assessment of future proposals. • The inclusion of discretion when using local policy will allow for outcome focused decision making. Planning decisions on individual permit applications require consideration of competing objectives. There is no imbalance demonstrated with the proposed local policy framework. • The LPPF gives appropriate recognition to environmental considerations.
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Could consider buffers around industrial developments. • Protection of industrial land uses from encroachment by sensitive land uses. • Review of Intensive Animal Husbandry Local Planning Policy added under further strategic work. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • C45 has identified further strategic work to be done to identify options to provide land use buffer areas around odorous industrial facilities, gas plants, service infrastructure and wastewater treatment facilities. • C45 strives to maintain a policy neutral approach and it is considered that minimum or recommended buffer distances are already addressed under Clause 52.10 of the Scheme. • As above C45 already seeks to conduct further strategic work to be done to identify options to provide land use buffer areas around negative amenity facilities. • C45 already identifies a review of the outcome of the Animal Industries Advisory Committee and the government response. This is an ongoing issue.

Sub. no.	Summary of submission	Recommended Council position at planning panel
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not support the amendment in its current form. • Process was confusing and unfair way of gaining community feedback. • Tracked changes should be provided to assist in understanding what has been changed. • Insufficient community consultation and lack of consideration on the impacts to local communities and the environment. • The proposed changes are major and the documents used to support the amendment such as the Tourism Opportunities Study, Great South Coast Plan and Shipwreck Coast Master Plan do not consider the communities or environment in balance with tourism. • C45 is not clear what objective goes with what strategies. This causes confusion and could lead to inappropriate development without fair and orderly planning. • Amendment appears to be promoting tourism use and development anywhere and at any scale without considering the environment or communities. There doesn't seem to be policy on what, where, scale and limitations. • There is no balance to the LPPF. Too much emphasis is placed on growth and economics without consideration of the environment. • Before any changes are adopted with the amendment more specific objectives, strategies and implementation plans should be developed. • With coastal hazards/climate change impacts already an issue along the shires southern coastal boundary up to date data is needed to draft these policy changes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The documentation is transparent with new content and current content clearly shown. • C45 is largely policy neutral with the documentation being successfully scrutinised for this by DELWP. • Appropriate consultation has been undertaken during the planning scheme review process and through the exhibition of Amendment C45. • All documents that have informed the LPPF have been adopted or supported in principle by council and had their own consultation processes and opportunities for comment. • The relevant strategies for achieving the objectives are clearly listed under the objectives each clause and are considered to relate to each other. There is also a section which deals with implementation under each clause. • Planning for and managing the potential coastal impacts of climate change are already dealt with in the SPPF under Clause 13. This has strategies for considering sea level rise, erosion, landslip/landslide, acid sulphate soils, bushfire and geotechnical risk and flooding.
7	<p>The amendment should return to Councillors for consideration for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It should be workshopped with communities to find their vision for their area. • The list of people that were advised of this amendment was selective and was sent to groups who favour development. • Amendment seems all out for tourism development regardless of impact. • Amendment is not policy neutral. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual notification of the Review process throughout the municipality was considered impractical as was exhibition of this amendment. Instead notice of the amendment was placed in all local newspapers, on Council's website and emailed to all progress associations. The form of notice for Amendment C45 was considered as part of the authorisation process.

Sub. no.	Summary of submission	Recommended Council position at planning panel
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are references to the environment, economic development and tourism within the LPPF. No policy is given more weight over another rather it acknowledges that use and development require balancing all these objectives. • Appropriate consultation has been undertaken during the planning scheme review process and through the exhibition of Amendment C45. • C45 is largely policy neutral with the documentation being successfully scrutinised for this by DELWP.
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports the amendment and wishes to be consulted on aspects of buffer zones on its wastewater treatment facilities and the Commercial Areas Study. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note support.
9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes have significant impact on the community and there has not been sufficient stakeholder engagement or communication of the proposed changes. • Amendments do not appear to be in the direct interest of environment or the community. • Amendments do not adequately control development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate consultation has been undertaken during the planning scheme review process and through the exhibition of Amendment C45. • The LPPF has several references to the environment, its value and importance. All the local area policies were developed with community involvement when they were written and are not proposed to be altered as part of this amendment. • There is no proposal under Amendment C45 to change current zoning or overlay provisions applying to land. Therefore the amendment does not propose any major changes to the potential development or use of land. Rather it seeks to provide an improved policy framework to guide decision making.
10	<p>Supports the amendment however requests three minor modifications to tourism policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The referenced document, 'Strategic Master Plan for the <i>Great Ocean Road Region Victoria Economy 2015-2025</i> should also be included in the list of reference documents at Clause 21.08. • The exhibited Clause 21.05-2 at the end of the 'Strategies' section states 'Facilitate the use and development of nominated tourism opportunity sites set out in Table 1 to this clause in accordance with their preferred use'. It is submitted that this clause should say, '<i>generally</i> in accordance with their preferred use'. • Given the 'Tourism Opportunity Sites' table is being moved to Clause 21.05-2 then Schedule 1 to the Rural Activity Zone will also need to be amended to refer to the changed clause as it 	<p>The recommended changes are supported as they clarify and add value to policy direction.</p>

Sub. no.	Summary of submission	Recommended Council position at planning panel
	currently refers to Table 1 as being at Clause 22.03-4.	
11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request the MSS is updated to consider the Advisory Committee report on Major Hazard Facilities soon to be released and reflect the presence of high pressure transmission gas pipeline and incorporate strategies to protect the pipeline from encroaching activities that may affect it operation. 	<p>Council officers have considered the Advisory Committee report into Major Hazard Facilities released by the Minister for Planning and consider its recommendations below to appropriately address APA Groups concerns:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare a Ministerial Direction under Section 7(5) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 and an associated Planning Practice Note to guide the development of local policy and the application of the Environmental Significance Overlay and schedules to planning around Major Hazard Facilities. Modify the Clause 65 Decision Guidelines to include an additional decision guideline to refer to hazards associated with Major Hazard Facilities.
12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Objects to the amendment and requests any reference to gas under clause <i>21.05-4 Stone and Gas Resources</i> be removed as need to move towards more renewable energy systems rather than exploration for more gas in order to reduce CO2 emissions. 	<p>The submission is not supported for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Corangamite Shire already has existing gas processing facilities which are an important economic contributor to the region and the State. There is a need for local planning policy to better recognise the need to protect gas processing plants form encroachment by sensitive uses. Council has indicated support for future conventional gas exploration in the future. However this will depend on the outcomes of The Victorian Gas Program which is currently scheduled to run from 2017 to mid-2020.
13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update and streamlining of amendment is appropriate however clauses on environmental risks, natural resource management and economic development need revision as they are too weak and miss out on several points relating natural resource protection and inappropriately prioritise tourism development. Currently there is an expressed bias towards tourism development at the expense of other values. Tourism development needs to be managed so everyone benefits and not at expense of the environment. Object to Amendment C45 and request that an inclusive and open community consultation process is undertaken to ensure the priorities of ratepayers and communities are reflected. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appropriate consultation has been undertaken during the planning scheme review process and through the exhibition of Amendment C45. <p>In response to the submission regarding economic development the following points are made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is appropriate in the context of the findings of both the Scheme Review and the likely future economic importance of tourism to Corangamite Shire, that tourism policy be strengthened in the local planning policy framework. Permit applications for tourism uses can be made in the Farming Zone and Rural Conservation Zone, and so it is therefore inappropriate that future policy focus only on Amendment C30 Tourism Opportunity sites.

Sub. no.	Summary of submission	Recommended Council position at planning panel
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request specific changes to LPPF clauses relating to environment, landscapes and economic development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a need to ensure that recent Strategic work (e.g. Shipwreck Coast Master Plan, GORRT Destination Management Plan, Economic Development Strategy) are included as reference documents in Clause 21.08 There is already a body of strategic planning work to guide consideration for future permit applications for future tourism development and use. <p>In response to the submissions concerning environmental matters, the following changes to strengthen reference to environmental protections could be achieved by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Including reference to “nationally significant environmental resources and sensitive coastal eco-systems” in the Municipal Profile At Clause 21.03 Key Issues – Environmental and Natural Resource Management Reword the first dot point to read ‘Protecting sensitive coastal and volcanic landscapes and preserving remnant vegetation where feasible’ At Clause 21.05-2 Objectives, reword the second objective to read ‘To sustainably manage regionally significant tourism attractions such as the Great Ocean Road, lakes, waterways and volcanic cones’. Making changes to reword objectives in Clause 24.01-3 as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure the risks to life and property from bushfire and flood are appropriately managed. To discourage development of land prone to flooding, and ensure that the risk of inundation including local factors such as sea surge and river estuary conditions (noting that estuaries are sometimes artificially managed) be considered in relation to future use and development of land. <p>It is not considered necessary to make further changes to the Strategies under Clause 21.04-3 in relation to Environmental Risk as Amendment C45 includes a number of new strategies which are not contained in the current scheme. Similarly the application of zones and overlays gives added emphasis to the use of Overlays in relation to managing risks associated with fire and flood.</p>

Sub. no.	Summary of submission	Recommended Council position at planning panel
14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Planning Policy for Princetown has not been adhered to in relation to the Montarosa development at Princetown. • Lack of infrastructure along the Great Ocean Road to cater for number of visitors and this should be fixed up first. More resources need to be provided to maintain and upkeep these facilities. • Request specific changes to LPPF clauses relating to Princetown and tourism. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whether a local planning policy has been adequately considered in a specific planning application is not relevant to this amendment. • The suggested additional strategies to be included within the Princetown local planning policy and tourism policy are not considered necessary. Community views and submissions on strategies and individual permit applications are already considered in decision making. There are also existing provisions in the <i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i> which guide notification and submission processes in relation to planning scheme amendments and permit applications. • Infrastructure provision along the Great Ocean Road is primarily the responsibility of State Government. Council has been advocating for infrastructure improvements.
15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has concerns in relation to changes to policy on rural dwellings and subdivision. • There is a need to strike a balance between retaining agricultural land and allowing flexibility in the change of ownership of land for existing landowners and investors. • Excisions of dwellings and boundary realignments are often necessary to reduce debt or provide cash flow to purchase more land. 	<p>To allow greater flexibility around subdivision, house lot excisions, boundary re-alignments, and the construction of dwellings in the Farming Zone the following amendments to policy requirements are recommended:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At clause 22.01-3 when considering a permit application for any subdivision reword dot point 3 to read <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Consideration will be given to the potential for an increase in future dwellings and the impact on the ability to continue farming activity • At clause 22.01-3 when considering a planning permit application to excise a lot containing a dwelling delete the following dot points <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The purpose of the excision is to facilitate farm consolidation; ○ The benefit of removing the dwelling from the land outweighs the risk of having a residential land use adjoining a farming property in terms of supporting agriculture; ○ The balance lot should meet the minimum lot size requirement specified in the schedule to the zone; ○ The dwelling and its immediate surrounds should be a maximum of 1 hectare; ○ The excised lot should not include significant farm infrastructure;

Sub. no.	Summary of submission	Recommended Council position at planning panel
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Section 173 Agreement under the Planning and Environment Act 1987 must be entered into that prevents the construction of a dwelling on the residual lot other than if it meets the requirements specified in the schedule to the zone.
16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amendment does partly address policy gap on direction for tourism development beyond identified tourism opportunity sites however further emphasis needs to be placed on the implementation of the Shipwreck Coast Master Plan and the Strategic Master Plan for the Great Ocean Road Region Visitor Economy 2015-2015. Needs to be a clearer pathway for supporting appropriate tourism development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is considered that there is sufficient reference to both of these documents in Clause 21.05-2 and the amendment proposes the inclusion of the Shipwreck Coast Master Plan as a reference document. This is appropriate given that the Shipwreck Coast Master Plan was released by the Minister for the Environment Climate Change and Water in December 2015, and is supported by the Victorian Government.
17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supports the amendment. Aligning the planning scheme with the Shire and Regions strategy on tourism can only promote efficiency and prove beneficial in encouraging appropriate and relevant development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note support
18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommends minor changes to the wording of strategies and objectives relating to flooding and waterway buffers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The suggested rewording of the Objective at Clause 21.04-3 "To ensure that land use and development is compatible with the flood hazard" is supported. It is considered that the Planning Scheme already contains sufficient measures to protect waterway buffers from development. The Planning Scheme already contains a mechanism and controls (such as the Environmental Significance Overlay and Land Subject to Inundation Overlay) that can be applied where it can be demonstrated that risk exists.
19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whilst the amendment is generally supported the submission suggests changes to Clause 21.03-2 and Clause 22.01. These relate to rural dwellings and subdivision with the recommendations to allow greater discretion for rural subdivisions. The submission seeks a new policy direction to allow support for the creation of smaller lots in the rural zones. This is to allow the affordable dispersal of land and the increased potential to raise capital from the sale of smaller parcels of land. 	<p>To allow greater flexibility around subdivision, house lot excisions, boundary re-alignments, and the construction of dwellings in the Farming Zone the following amendments to policy requirements are recommended:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At clause 22.01-3 when considering a permit application for any subdivision reword dot point 3 to read Consideration will be given to the potential for an increase in future dwellings and the impact on the ability to continue farming activity

Sub. no.	Summary of submission	Recommended Council position at planning panel
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At clause 22.01-3 when considering a planning permit application to excise a lot containing a dwelling delete the following dot points <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The purpose of the excision is to facilitate farm consolidation; ○ The benefit of removing the dwelling from the land outweighs the risk of having a residential land use adjoining a farming property in terms of supporting agriculture; ○ The balance lot should meet the minimum lot size requirement specified in the schedule to the zone; ○ The dwelling and its immediate surrounds should be a maximum of 1 hectare; ○ The excised lot should not include significant farm infrastructure; ○ A Section 173 Agreement under the Planning and Environment Act 1987 must be entered into that prevents the construction of a dwelling on the residual lot other than if it meets the requirements specified in the schedule to the zone. <p>At clause 22.01-3 delete the policy relating to considering a planning permit application to realign boundaries which reads</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Proposals for re-aligning boundaries are only permitted for the purpose of making minor adjustments such as responding to topographical or public infrastructure features, except where the re-alignment will support more productive agricultural outcomes (particularly through farm consolidation). <p>At Clause 22.01-3 delete all of the policy in relation to Dwellings in the Farming Zone.</p>
20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preventing excisions and realignments will affect farming businesses as having several titles gives greater financial flexibility i.e. borrowing from bank, selling to adjoining landowner. • Preventing excisions will prevent farm workers purchasing their own property close to work and small scale farming businesses from being able to operate. • Understand planning scheme must be reviewed however believe it doesn't need to be changed as it has been operating perfectly. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The submitters concern that amendment proposes a blanket ban on small lot excisions and realignment of lot boundaries is incorrect. Whilst the submitter states the scheme is currently operating perfectly the current scheme does control subdivision of land and excision of dwellings. The policy position remains unchanged and enhancements and clarification to the settings are being sought under this amendment. • The planning scheme review found there was a need to update the LPPF.

Sub. no.	Summary of submission	Recommended Council position at planning panel
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Each rural subdivision case must be assessed on its own merits and a blanket ban on rural subdivision inappropriate and counterproductive for the future of the area.	

10. OFFICERS' REPORTS

10.1 Council Grants Program 2017-2018

Author: Lucy Vesey, Recreation Development Officer

File No: D17/474

Previous Council Reference: Nil

Declaration

Chief Executive Officer – Andrew Mason

In providing this advice to Council as the Chief Executive Officer, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

Manager Facilities and Recreation – Jarrod Woff

In providing this advice to Council as the Manager of Recreation and Facilities, I have an indirect interest due to conflict of duty, as I hold an executive position with the Great South Coast Events Inc.

Manager Environment and Emergency – Lyall Bond

In providing this advice to Council as the Manager of Environment and Emergency, I have an indirect interest due to conflict of duty, as I hold an executive position with the Lismore Primary School Council.

Author - Lucy Vesey

In providing this advice to Council as the Recreation Development Officer, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

Author – James Watson

In providing this advice to Council as the Environment Projects Officer, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

Summary

The purpose of this report is to approve the allocation of funds for Council's 2017-2018 Community, Facility and Environment Support Grant Programs.

Introduction

Council's 2017-2018 funding program includes the Community Grants, Facility Grants and Environment Support Grants categories.

In total 161 grant submissions were received across all grant programs requesting a total of \$204,818. It is recommended 114 applications be funded at a total cost of \$129,861.

Issues

Community Grants

The purpose of the program is to provide 'one off' financial assistance to community groups operating in the Corangamite Shire for:

- Workshops or equipment purchases
- Development of new community, leisure, cultural or recreational programs
- Planning activities (e.g. business plans).

Funding of up to \$1,000 is provided on a dollar for dollar basis (matching contributions can be cash and/or in-kind) for the following activities or events:

- Community development activities
- Community events
- Cultural activities
- Initiatives that address social disadvantage
- Cultural acquisitions (one off only funding).

Eligibility

The scheme is open to community groups operating within the Corangamite Shire. These include, but are not limited to:

- Youth groups
- Self support groups
- Health and welfare organisations
- Cultural and recreational organisations
- Charitable organisations
- Information service providers
- Church groups
- Other community based organisations deemed eligible.

Criteria

The assessment criteria for the Community Grants program is outlined below:

- What will you use Council's funding for? (20%)
- Who will benefit? (30%)
- Ability to attract other public funds. (15%)
- Is funding required or can applicant fund themselves? (10%)
- Previous Council support. (15%)
- Project planning. (10%)

Applications

In the Community Grants program 69 grant submissions were received from 61 organisations with a total application for funds of \$56,257. This was an increase from 41 grant submissions in 2016 - 2017 and a total application for funds of \$36,727.

An initial review of the Community Grant applications was conducted and a number of issues identified with the following particular grants as highlighted in Table 1:

Grant Application	Issues	Response
Camperdown Poultry Club – Whirly Bird Installation	Referred to Facility Grants Program	Considered and evaluated under the Facility Grants Program
Cobden Technical School – Hands on Learning	Not recommended for funding	Incomplete upon receipt. Cobden Technical School highlighted that they had not fully scoped their project and were not well placed to provide detail.

Grant Application	Issues	Response
Cobden and District Orchid Club Inc. – Orchid Show	Not recommended for funding	Incomplete upon receipt. Cobden and District Orchid Club later withdrew their application.
Lismore and Derrinallum Heart Foundation Walking Group - Grampians/Halls Gap Weekend Walking Adventure	Deemed Ineligible	Deemed ineligible based on item six in the program guidelines, “What will not be funded? - <i>Projects that directly benefit a business or small number of individuals.</i>
Camperdown Botanic Gardens and Arboretum Trust Inc - Website Development	Deemed Ineligible	Deemed ineligible based on item six in the program guidelines, “What will not be funded? - <i>Projects considered to be the responsibility of other authorities.</i>
Lismore Progress Association – Barber of Seville Opera Tour	Fund through Council’s Arts & Culture program	Refer to program budget
Cobden Civic Hall – Purchase of Defibrillator	Referred from Facility Grants Program	Considered and evaluated under the Community Grants Program
Cobden Miniature Railway – Purchase of Defibrillator	Referred from Facility Grants Program	Considered and evaluated under the Community Grants Program

Table 1: Summary of initial review of Community Grant applications

Further review of Community Grant applications ruled out all applications for multiple projects by the same organisation. The priority project for organisations with more than one application was reviewed in the evaluation process only.

This meant a total of 56 applications were evaluated with a total estimated project cost of \$252,995 and a total funding request from Council of \$46,644.

Applications were evaluated independently by three Council officers, based on the Community Grants assessment criteria. Results of the evaluation were then averaged and grant applications were ranked based on these results. Funding was allocated to the highest ranking applications and budget allocated to these projects accordingly.

The total amount of funding being recommended in the Community Grants program is \$46,644, resulting in a surplus of \$3,356 funds from the \$50,000 2017-2018 budget allocation for Community Grants.

Details of all applications received and the projects recommended for funding in the Community Grants category are provided under separate cover.

Facility Grants

The aim of the Facility Grants program is to provide financial assistance to Committees of Management to assist with facility improvements. It is expected that applications will be submitted for:

- Equipment purchases
- Minor repairs
- Minor works

The Facility Grants program provides funding up to and not exceeding \$2,000 per project on a dollar for dollar funding basis.

Eligibility

To be eligible for the Facility Grants program, applicants must be:

- Recreation Reserve Committees of Management delegated by Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP), Council or a Trust managing facilities located in Corangamite Shire.
- Halls Committees of Management delegated by DELWP, Council or a Trust managing facilities located in Corangamite Shire.
- Clubs or organisations whose primary function is located in the Corangamite Shire and who have support from the management committee.

Criteria

The assessment criteria for the Facility Grants program is outlined below:

- Is there a demonstrated need for the project? (15%)
- Who will benefit from the project? (20%)
- Previous financial assistance from Council? (10%)
- Is Council funding required or can the applicant fund the project themselves? (20%)
- Is the project supported by a clear and accurate budget, including quotes and information regarding in kind contributions? (10%)
- How does the project link with the facilities future plans? (10%)
- What planning has been undertaken in relation to the project? (15%).

Applications

In the Facility Grants program 54 submissions were received from 50 organisations with a total application for funds of \$81,059. This was an increase from 51 submissions in 2016 - 2017 with a total application for funds of \$75,944.

An initial review of the Facility Grant applications was conducted and a number of issues identified with the following particular grants as highlighted in Table 2:

Grant Application	Issues	Response
Cobden Civic Hall – Defibrillator Purchase	Referred from Facility Grants Program	Considered and evaluated under the Community Grants Program
Cobden Miniature Railway - Defibrillator Purchase	Referred from Facility Grants Program	Considered and evaluated under the Community Grants Program
Camperdown Poultry Club – Whirlybird Installation	Referred to Facility Grants Program	Considered and evaluated under the Facility Grants Program
Kennedy’s Creek Hall – Purchase of ride on mower	Referred from Environmental Grants Program	Considered and evaluated under the Facility Grants Program
Simpson Recreation Reserve Committee of Management – Change Room Upgrade	Not recommended for funding	Outstanding funds owed to Council

Table 2: Summary of initial review of Facility Grant applications

Further review of Facility Grant applications ruled out all applications for multiple projects at the same facility. The priority project for facilities with more than one application was reviewed in the evaluation process.

This meant 49 applications were considered with total funding requested equalling \$75,245. This is \$25,245 greater than the \$50,000 2017-2018 budget allocation.

Applications were evaluated independently by three Council officers, based on the Facility Grants assessment criteria. Results of the evaluation were then averaged and grant applications were ranked based on these results. Funding was allocated to the highest ranking applications and budget allocated to these projects accordingly.

The project evaluation has identified a total funding allocation of \$49,861 to 32 Facility Grant applicants, within the budget provision. Seventeen eligible applications will not receive funding.

Council's budget allocation for 2017-2018 Facility and Community Grants program was \$100,000. If Council opt to use the surplus funds from the Community Grants program, Council can fund three additional eligible Facility Grants to a total of \$99,861.

Details of all applications received and the projects recommended for funding in the Facility Grants category are provided under separate cover.

Environment Support Grants

The aim of the Environment Support Grants program is to provide financial assistance to incorporated community groups, organisations and individuals to undertake environmental and sustainability projects within Corangamite Shire. It is expected that applications will be submitted for:

- Weed control to protect and enhance environmental assets
- Protection and enhancement of remnant native vegetation
- An increase in the extent, condition and connectivity of native vegetation
- Improvements to soil health and water quality
- Waste reduction and education
- Increased community understanding of environmental and sustainability issues.

The Environment Support Grants program provides funding up to and not exceeding \$2,000 per project on a dollar for dollar funding basis, matched with cash or in-kind.

Eligibility

To be eligible for the Environment Support Grants program, applicants must be:

- Community groups and organisations must be incorporated and not-for profit.
- Groups may submit multiple applications per financial year but may only submit one application per project.
- Individuals are eligible to apply but may only submit one application per financial year.
- Government organisations and agencies are not eligible to apply; however, kindergartens, Committees of Management, Special Committees and other community committees are eligible.
- Primary and secondary schools are eligible to apply for environmental projects but are not eligible to apply for energy and water efficiency items (e.g. solar panels, light fittings, insulation).
- Applicants must match the requested funding through either cash contributions or in-kind contributions (e.g. volunteer labour).
- Projects that provide direct financial benefit to a commercial business or individuals are not eligible.
- Projects that are more appropriately funded by another agency or program will not be funded.

- The number of times an applicant has previously received funding through the Environment Support Grants will be considered during the assessment process. Council may choose not to fund projects by applicants who have previously received funding should the program be oversubscribed.
- For community facilities, applicants must be the owner of the building/facility or have written consent from the owner.
- If the community facility is a Council-owned building, the applicant must discuss the project with Corangamite Shire's Facilities and Recreation Manager prior to submitting the application.

Criteria

Each application was evaluated by the assessment panel against the criteria listed below. The percentages listed indicate the level of weighting given to each criterion.

- Ability to achieve direct environmental benefits and/or reductions in energy/water use (30%)
- Ability to build community capacity and foster greater understanding of environmental issues (20%)
- Level of community support and broader public benefit (20%)
- Value for money, including the value of project contributions provided by the applicant (15%)
- Level of demonstrated project planning and ability for the project to be sustained beyond the funding term (15%).

Applications

In the Environment Support Grants program 38 submissions were received with a total application for funds of \$67,501. This was an increase from 20 submissions in 2016-2017 with a total application for funds of \$35,802.

One application was referred from the Environment Support Grants program to the Facility Grants program for consideration:

1. Kennedy's Creek Hall – Purchase of ride on mower

This application was referred and evaluated under the Facility Grants program.

The remaining 37 applications were then considered with total funding requested equalling \$65,501. This is \$35,501 greater than the \$30,000 allocation in the 2017-2018 budget.

Applications were evaluated independently by three Council officers, based on the Environment Support Grant assessment criteria. Applications were then ranked according to the panel's assessment.

The evaluation process has identified a total funding allocation of \$30,000 to Environment Support Grant applicants, which is within the 2017-2018 budget provision. 11 applications have been identified for full funding and 12 applications identified for partial funding. 14 eligible applications will not receive funding.

Partial funding is recommended for some projects due to the exclusion of ineligible items or multiple applications for the same area. This enables Council to support a greater number of projects.

It is acknowledged that some projects appear to be similar to others or providing the same benefit and may not be funded, this is as a result of the scoring of projects based on previous funding compared to new projects, poorly matched in-kind or cash funding between applicants and information provided for project plans and implementation.

Details of all applications received and the projects recommended for funding under the Environment Support Grants program is provided under separate cover.

Policy and Legislative Context

The Grants program is delivered in accordance with the following commitments of the Council Plan 2017-2021:

Deliver high quality, optimally used, sustainable community facilities.

Council will provide and support a range of opportunities that support people to engage in healthy and active lifestyles, the arts, recreation and sport.

We are committed to improving the liveability of Corangamite Shire through the management of our facilities, town planning and environmental sustainability.

Preserve the natural environment of Corangamite Shire.

In addition, the program aligns with the following objective from the Environment & Sustainability Strategy 2014-2019:

Engage and empower the community to address environmental and sustainability concerns in Corangamite Shire

The proposed funding allocations for all grant categories were determined in accordance with the program guidelines including:

- the number of applications and funds sought
- the organisation's contribution or capacity to contribute
- the assessment criteria.

Internal / External Consultation

Applications for these programs opened 18 April and closed 16 June 2017.

Applications to the program were invited via public notices, media releases, social media posts and on Council's website. Public notices were included in The Warrnambool Standard, each of the Western District Newspapers and community newsletters at the commencement of the funding program. In addition, application forms and guidelines were mailed or emailed directly to all committees of management, community groups, clubs and organisations and a reminder public notice in each of the Western District Newspapers and community newsletters was provided prior to applications closing.

Applicants for all programs were invited to discuss their project and/or application with Council's Recreation Development Officer and Environment Projects Officer.

Organisations intending to submit multiple applications were advised of the requirement to outline the preferred project or priority on the application form. Committees were also advised to confirm endorsement of projects from the Hall/Reserve Committee of Management where applications were submitted by resident groups of that facility.

The evaluation process and recommendations for funding were presented to Councillors at a briefing on 11 July. Councillors at this time also identified and declared conflicts of interest. The recommendation to Council herein has been structured to allow for Councillors with a known conflict of interests to depart Chambers whilst that specific application is dealt with.

Financial and Resource Implications

Council has allocated \$130,000 to the grants funding program in the 2017-2018 budget.

Applications were assessed for eligibility and requests for funding amounts allocated to reflect up to a 50% contribution from Council. Contributions from applicants must match the request of funding from Council and can include a financial and/or in-kind labour.

In total 161 grant submissions were received across all grant programs requesting a total of \$204,818. Following assessment it is recommended that 114 applications be funded at a total cost of \$129,861.

Options

Council can consider the following options for allocation of funds under the three funding programs:

1. Allocate funds to the grants program as follows:
 - \$30,000 to Environment Support Grant applications as outlined under separate cover: Funding Environment Support Grants 2017-2018.
 - \$46,644 to Community Grant applications as outlined under separate cover: Funding Community Grants 2017-2018.
 - \$49,861 to Facility Grant applications as outlined under separate cover: Funding Facility Grants 2017-2018.

This will result in a saving of \$3,495 within the 2017-2018 budget.

2. Allocate funds to the grants program as follows:
 - \$30,000 to Environment Support Grant applications as outlined under separate cover: Funding Environment Support Grants 2017-2018.
 - \$46,644 to Community Grant applications as outlined under separate cover: Funding Community Grants 2017-2018.
 - \$49,861 to Facility Grant applications and allocate surplus funds of \$3,356 from the Community Grants program to the Facility Grants program to enable an additional three projects to be funded as outlined under separate cover: Funding Facility Grants 2017-2018.

This will fund an additional three projects in the Facility Grants category (based on the evaluation ranking) and result in a saving of \$721 within the 2017-2018 budget.

3. Re-evaluate grant applications and consider funding alternative projects.

Conclusion

Council's Grants program provides financial assistance to committees of management and community groups located in Corangamite Shire with facility improvements, workshops, equipment purchases or development of new community, leisure or recreational programs.

Redevelopment, refurbishment and upgrades to the ageing infrastructure at Council's facilities are entirely reliant on the local committee's time, input and minimal financial income. The Facility Grants program reflects the nature of management of these facilities being dependent on volunteers, by allowing both cash and in-kind labour as the committees' matching contribution.

The Environment Support Grants program provides funding to incorporated community groups, organisations and individuals to undertake environmental and sustainability projects within Corangamite Shire, on a 1:1 basis, to further enhance knowledge and the environment.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Allocates funds to the following Community Grant applicant:

COMMUNITY GRANTS	
ORGANISATION	AMOUNT
Cobden Cemetery Trust	\$1,000
	\$1,000

2. Allocates funds to the following Community Grant applicant:

COMMUNITY GRANTS	
ORGANISATION	AMOUNT
Abbeyfield Timboon	\$1,000
	\$1,000

3. Allocates funds to the following Community Grant applicant:

COMMUNITY GRANTS	
ORGANISATION	AMOUNT
Camperdown SES Unit	\$484
	\$484

4. Allocates funds to the following Community Grant applicant:

COMMUNITY GRANTS	
ORGANISATION	AMOUNT
U3A Corangamite Inc	\$498
	\$498

5. Allocates funds to the following Grant applicants:

COMMUNITY GRANTS	
ORGANISATION	AMOUNT
Derrinallum Progress Association	\$636
Mt Elephant Management Committee	\$1,000
	\$1,636
ENVIRONMENT SUPPORT GRANTS	
Derrinallum Progress Association	\$400
Mount Elephant Community Management	\$2,000
	\$2,400

6. Allocates funds to the following Community Grant applicants:

COMMUNITY GRANTS	
ORGANISATION	AMOUNT
Advance Camperdown Inc	\$892
Camperdown and District Historical Society	\$757
Camperdown Horse Trials	\$1,000
Camperdown Pastoral and Agricultural Society	\$1,000
Camperdown Playgroup	\$341
Camperdown Pony Club	\$360
Camperdown Theatre Company	\$1,000
Camperdown Toy Library Inc	\$230
Camperdown Uniting Church	\$1,000
Cobden and District Pony Club	\$1,000
Cobden Business Network	\$1,000
Cobden Civic Hall	\$1,000
Cobden Health	\$972
Cobden Miniature Railway	\$1,000
Corangamite Arts Inc	\$841
Corangamite Film Society	\$1,000
Corangamite Relay for Life	\$1,000
Darlington Mechanics Institute & Recreation Reserve Inc	\$1,000
Great South Coast Events Inc	\$1,000
Heytesbury Pony Club Inc	\$1,000
Keilambete Music Club	\$1,000
Kennedys Creek Hall Committee	\$1,000
Lions Club of Camperdown	\$1,000
Lismore and District Garden Club	\$1,000
Men's Shed - Simpson & District Community Centre Inc	\$519
Noorat and District Agricultural and Pastoral Society	\$1,000
Pomborneit Rural Fire Brigade	\$250
Port Campbell Progress	\$1,000
Port Campbell Surf Lifesaving Club	\$1,000
Progressing Cobden Inc	\$1,000
Quota International of Cobden	\$750
Rotary Club of Cobden Inc	\$1,000
Sherbrook River Guide Camp	\$222
ShineLife! Church	\$1,000
Simpson & District Community Centre Inc	\$281
Skipton Playgroup	\$523
Skipton Primary School Parents Club	\$800
South West Healthcare (Corangamite Health Collaborative)	\$1,000
South Western District Restoration Group Inc	\$1,000
Terang and District Historical Society Inc	\$1,000
Terang and District Lions Club Inc	\$729
Terang Athletic Club Inc	\$1,000

Terang College	\$1,000
Terang Progress Association	\$1,000
Terang RSL Sub-Branch	\$375
Timboon & District Kindergarten Parents Advisory Group	\$1,000
Timboon Action	\$1,000
Tuniversal Music Group	\$384
Weerite Public Hall	\$800
Yachting Western Victoria	\$1,000
	\$42,026

7. Allocates surplus Community Grant funds of \$3,356 to the Facility Grants category.

8. Allocates funds to the following Facility Grant applicants:

FACILITY GRANTS	
ORGANISATION	AMOUNT
Camperdown Horse Trials	\$1,690
Camperdown Indoor Bowls	\$2,000
Camperdown Little Athletics	\$2,000
Camperdown Pastoral and Agricultural Society	\$2,000
Camperdown Poultry Club	\$1,000
Camperdown Racecourse and Recreation Reserve Inc	\$1,149
Camperdown Rotary Club Inc	\$2,000
Camperdown Timboon Rail Trail CoM	\$2,000
Carpentait Public Hall & Recreation Reserve	\$715
Cobden & District Tennis Association	\$825
Cobden Bowling Club	\$2,000
Cobden Recreation Reserve CoM	\$1,998
Cobden Uniting Church	\$1,370
Cobrico Public Hall CoM	\$1,631
Cobrico Recreation Reserve CoM	\$2,000
Deep Lake Recreation Reserve CoM Inc.	\$2,000
Derrinallum Cemetery Trust	\$290
Dixie Hall and Tennis Courts Reserve CoM	\$1,885
Ecklin Public Hall	\$831
Lake Elingamite CoM	\$1,380
Lake Tooliorook Reserve CoM	\$2,000
Lismore Golf Club Inc	\$1,118
Noorat Recreation Reserve Trustees Inc	\$2,000
Pomborneit Rural Fire Brigade	\$125
Scotts & Cowleys Creek Hall	\$968
Skipton Golf Club Inc	\$1,000
South Beach CoM	\$649
South Western District Restoration Group Inc	\$2,000
Terang & District Amateur Swimming Club	\$2,000

Terang and District Lions Club	\$2,000
Terang Cricket Club	\$2,000
Terang Croquet Club	\$323
Terang Recreation Reserve CoM	\$2,000
Timboon Recreation Reserve CoM	\$1,688
Weerite Public Hall Inc	\$2,000
	\$52,635

9. Allocates funds to the following Environment Support Grant applicants:

ENVIRONMENT SUPPORT GRANTS	
ORGANISATION	AMOUNT
Andrew Wilson	\$1,000
Brad Collins	\$1,310
Camperdown Pastoral and Agricultural Society	\$2,000
Heytesbury District Landcare Network	\$760
J.E & C.M Woodward	\$2,000
K & B Boyd	\$1,500
L.R & E.R Bamford	\$1,000
Lismore Landcare	\$600
Lismore Land Protection Group	\$1,000
Lismore Primary School Council	\$500
Noorat Primary School	\$1,170
Place Farms	\$929
Princetown Landcare Group	\$1,500
Robert Swinton	\$1,000
Rotary Club of Cobden	\$1,726
Simpson Cricket Club	\$1,515
St. Patrick's School	\$2,000
Stewart Park Committee of Management	\$250
Terang Progress Association	\$1,840
Timboon Bowling Club	\$2,000
Weerite Landcare Group	\$2,000
	\$27,600

Attachments

1. Funding Community Grants Program 2017-2018 - Under Separate Cover
2. Funding Facility Grants Program 2017-2018 - Under Separate Cover
3. Funding Environment Support Grants Program 2017-2018 - Under Separate Cover

10.2 Response to VicRoads' Engagement on Country Roads

Author: Brooke Love, Director Works and Services

File No: D17/475

Previous Council Reference: Nil

Declaration

Chief Executive Officer – Andrew Mason

In providing this advice to Council as the Chief Executive Officer, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

Author - Brooke Love

In providing this advice to Council as the Director Works and Services, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

Summary

This report seeks Council authorisation for the Chief Executive Officer to make a submission to VicRoads' engagement program on Country Roads in response to the *Country Roads Conversation Starter* discussion paper.

Introduction

VicRoads are seeking feedback from local communities on five key areas in relation to how they can better plan, build, manage and maintain the 19,000kms of country arterial roads into the future:

- Growing our regions
- Reducing lives lost on country roads
- Building a more resilient and reliable country road network
- Growing regional economies through improved and efficient freight access, and
- Enhancing regional Victoria as a tourist destination.

A discussion paper *Country Roads: Conversation Starter* has been provided to initiate discussions. A response to this engagement process is an additional method for Council to provide its views on the planning, management and maintenance of its arterial roads.

Council has been continually advocating for increased funding to adequately maintain the arterial road network. More than \$55million is required in Corangamite just to improve the road network which is in extremely poor condition to an adequate standard and ensure it is safe for all road users.

A copy of the proposed submission is attached under separate cover.

Issues

Issues being explored through the engagement process and used to shape future discussions include how the road network can support job opportunities and population growth; how community can be better advised of dangers on roads and whether the speed limits are safe; what is the most important road pavement failure to assess and how much do our residents rely on the arterial network; whether the roads impact on business,

prosperity and growing freight task, and whether the roads impact on tourism and how can it better support tourism.

It is proposed Council make a formal written submission emphasising the following:

Freight

- Road conditions are increasing the maintenance costs for industry and business
- Unlocking High Productivity Freight Vehicle access will increase productivity
- HML weight limitations impact business which ultimately impacts on the competitiveness of the region's dairy exports.
- Corangamite Shire is the largest milk producer within Australia's most significant milk producing region, the South-West Victorian Dairy Region, 15% of residents are employed in the agriculture sector, and there is a 50% anticipated increase in dairy production volumes by 2020.

Tourism

- The Great Ocean Road experience extends into the hinterland
- 2.6 million visitors come to the Shipwreck Coast including the Twelve Apostles, Great Ocean Road, Port Campbell National Park
- 45% increase is expected in the next 20 years
- \$16 million is required, as a priority, to fund key north south linkage from the Great Ocean Road to Princes Highway West (and back to Melbourne)
- Safety is compromised by the increasing use of the road network by tourists, agricultural equipment, heavy vehicles and general motorists and the road conditions.

Road Safety

- Reducing speed limits to reduce the road toll does not deal with the real issue of inadequate funding for maintenance
- Reducing the speed costs our community more in time and money
- 12% of our arterial roads have reduced speed limits or are cautioned for rough surfaces, slips subsidence's
- 9.5% signed for rough surface, traffic or road hazard
- 26km have reduced speeds
- Line marking i.e. fog lines, appropriate advisory signage and media platforms are all easy ways to assist with safety and informing drivers.

Road maintenance

- Funding should be provided to meet the renewal demand
- Condition data collected over time is critical to plan for the next priorities
- The reactive approach to road maintenance is not working
- Decreasing maintenance funds lowers the overall network condition and ultimately the service level standard consumers come to expect, but will significantly increase the cost to repair the roads in the future.
- Roadside vegetation - tree trimming, slashing - is reactive
- Proactive programming of roadside spraying and weed control is essential
- Costs are increasing for business and the community on account of the poor road conditions.

Future Priorities

- Asset planning
- Great Ocean Road North South Loop and Visitor touring routes
- High Productivity Freight Vehicle routes

- Increase in funding to support renewal of distressed pavement
- Increase in funding to support recurrent maintenance
- Asset management of the road network to meet renewal demand and ensure a network that meets the safety and technical needs of our community.

Policy and Legislative Context

Council's 2017-2021 Council Plan identifies roads as a significant priority. Consideration of this submission aligns with the Council Plan key themes of *Roads, Governance and Financial Sustainability* and *Vibrant Economy, Agriculture and Tourism* and related objectives as follows:

We are committed to maintaining our local roads and advocating to the State and Federal Governments for improvements to the road network.

Council will focus on the provision of high quality roads.

Advocate on behalf of our communities for increased funding towards the main road network.

We are committed to ensuring the ethical behaviour of Councillors and staff, maintaining good governance and remaining financially sustainable.

Council will advocate strongly in relation to roads and cost shifting and other Council and community priorities.

We value the importance of local business to our economy and the overall prosperity of Corangamite Shire.

Support and facilitate the development of the visitor economy.

We are committed to working towards ensuring the safety, health and wellbeing of our communities.

Engage with and listen to our communities.

Support our small towns and dispersed population.

Internal / External Consultation

The proposed submission has been developed in consultation with Council's Manager Economic Development and Tourism, Manager Assets Planning and Manager Works, and has been reviewed by Council's Senior Officer Group.

The submission includes findings and case studies from discussions with local industry representatives over the past year and references strategic approaches identified by Council as a priority including Great Ocean Road North South loop road linkages, Great South Coast Food and Fibre Strategy and the Shipwreck Coast Master plan.

Financial and Resource Implications

Whilst there are no financial and resource implications associated with making a submission to the VicRoads' *Country Roads* engagement program, the ongoing safety and impacts on our community, industry and business are significant if VicRoads continues to inadequately manage and maintain its road network and if they are not appropriately assisted with funding from the State Government to do so.

Options

Council can choose to authorise the Chief Executive Officer to make a submission to VicRoads' *Country Roads Conversation Starter* or not.

Conclusion

VicRoads is undertaking an engagement program with local community around how they can better plan, build, manage and maintain the 19,000kms of country arterial roads into the future. A submission will provide Council an additional method to inform VicRoads its views on the planning, management and maintenance of its arterial roads. A copy of the proposed submission is attached. It is recommended Council authorise the Chief Executive Officer to make a submission on its behalf.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council authorises the Chief Executive Officer to make a submission to VicRoads' engagement program on Country Roads in response to the *Country Roads: Conversation Starter*

10.3 Council to Chief Executive Officer Delegation

Author: Penny MacDonald, Executive Services and Governance Coordinator

File No: D17/423

Previous Council Reference: Nil

Declaration

Chief Executive Officer – Andrew Mason

In providing this advice to Council as the Chief Executive Officer, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

Author - Penny MacDonald

In providing this advice to Council as the Executive Services and Governance Coordinator, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

Summary

The purpose of this report is for Council to review the Instrument of Delegation to the Chief Executive Officer, as required by the *Local Government Act 1989*. No changes are proposed to the existing Instrument of Delegation to the Chief Executive Officer dated January 2015.

Introduction

The *Local Government Act 1989*, as well as other legislation, makes express provision for the appointment of delegates to act on behalf of Council. This is because Council is a legal entity composed of Councillors, which can only act by resolution or through others acting on its behalf. Essentially delegations enable day to day decisions to be made, which in turn allows for the efficient, effective and timely delivery of a range of services.

Council is required to review its instruments of delegation within 12 months after the general council elections. Council subscribes to the Maddocks Delegation Service and if required reviews the instruments of delegation following information received twice a year from the service.

Issues

Council delegates to the CEO the power to determine any issue, take any action, or do any act or thing within conditions and limitations outlined in the Instrument of Delegation. Powers delegated to the Chief Executive Officer may be “sub delegated” in part to other Council officers, or Council can delegate directly to Council staff.

A review of the Instrument of delegation to the CEO has been undertaken following information received from the Maddocks Delegation Service, and no changes are proposed.

Policy and Legislative Context

Section 98 of the Act enables Council to delegate powers through an Instrument of Delegation. Section 98(6) requires Council to review within the period of 12 months after a general election all delegations which are in force and have been made by the Council.

Review of the Council to Chief Executive Officer Instrument of Delegation is consistent with the Council Plan 2017-2021 commitment and objectives:

We are committed to ensuring the ethical behaviour of Councillors and staff, maintaining good governance and remaining financially sustainable.

Council will demonstrate high levels of ethical behaviour and governance standards.

Council will deliver value for money by ensuring that services are required and delivered efficiently and sustainably.

Internal / External Consultation

This Instrument of Delegation has been prepared based on advice from Maddocks Delegations Service, and no changes to the existing Instrument are recommended.

Options

Council may review and endorse the Instrument of Delegation to the Chief Executive Officer as proposed. Alternatively, Council may choose to make changes to the Instrument.

Conclusion

Council, as a legal entity only capable of making decisions by resolution, delegates its powers to Council staff to enable day to day decisions to be made, which in turn allows for the efficient, effective and timely delivery of a range of services.

Council's delegations must be reviewed within 12 months following the general council elections. A review of the Council to Chief Executive Officer Instrument of Delegation has been undertaken and no changes are proposed.

RECOMMENDATION

In the exercise of the powers conferred by sections 98(1) of the *Local Government Act 1989* (the Act) and all other legislation referred to in the attached instrument of delegation, Council resolves that:

- 1. There be delegated to the person holding the position, acting in or performing the duties of Chief Executive Officer, the powers, duties and functions set out in the attached Instrument of Delegation to the Chief Executive Officer, subject to the conditions and limitations specified in that instrument.**
- 2. The Instrument comes into force immediately the common seal of Council is affixed to the Instrument.**
- 3. On the coming into force of the Instrument all previous delegations to the Chief Executive Officer are revoked.**
- 4. The duties and functions set out in the Instrument must be performed, and the powers set out in the Instrument must be executed, in accordance with any guidelines or policies of Council that it may from time to time adopt.**
- 5. It is noted that the Instrument includes a power of delegation to members of Council staff, in accordance with section 98(3) of the Act.**
- 6. The common seal be affixed to the Instrument.**

Attachments

1. S5 Instrument of Delegation, Council to Chief Executive July 2017 - Under Separate Cover

10.4 Council to Council Staff Delegation

Author: Penny MacDonald, Executive Services and Governance Coordinator

File No: D17/424

Previous Council Reference: Nil

Declaration

Chief Executive Officer – Andrew Mason

In providing this advice to Council as the Chief Executive Officer, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

Author - Penny MacDonald

In providing this advice to Council as the Executive Services and Governance Coordinator, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

Summary

The purpose of this report is for Council to review the Instrument of Delegation to Council Staff, as required by the *Local Government Act 1989*. A review has been carried out and some changes are proposed to the existing Instrument of Delegation to Council Staff dated January 2016.

Introduction

The *Local Government Act 1989*, as well as other legislation, makes express provision for the appointment of delegates to act on behalf of Council. This is because Council is a legal entity composed of Councillors, which can only act by resolution or through others acting on its behalf. Essentially delegations enable day to day decisions to be made, which in turn allows for the efficient, effective and timely delivery of a range of services.

Council is required to review its instruments of delegation within 12 months after the general council elections. Council subscribes to the Maddocks Delegation Service and if required reviews the instruments of delegation following information received twice a year from the service.

Issues

Council delegates a range of powers, functions and duties directly to members of Council staff. The delegations are made to positions not individuals, and ensures staff are adequately empowered to undertake their roles. The Instrument of Delegation is a key element of reducing Council's exposure to risk in the event of a legal dispute, and ensures ongoing legislative compliance. Financial delegations to staff are allocated through the Procurement Policy reviewed by Council annually.

Council last updated the Instrument of Delegation from Council to Council Staff in January 2016. The attached Council to Council Staff delegation has been updated to incorporate:

- changes to legislation including:
 - new duties and powers under the *Cemeteries and Crematoria Act 2003*, including ss86(2)-(6), 86(A), and 110A which have now come into effect

- amendments to the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* which allow for infrastructure contributions plans to be included in a planning scheme, and other minor amendments including a commencement note for the *Victorian Planning Authority Act 2017*
- the *Cemeteries and Crematoria Regulations 2015* which have come into force, with the 2005 regulations being revoked
- the *Planning and Environment (Fees) Regulations 2016* which have replaced the *Planning and Environment Regulations (Fees) Interim Regulations 2015*
- the *Road Management (General) Regulations 2016* which have replaced the *Road Management (General) Regulations 2005*, with minor amendments to council duties where it is the coordinating road authority
- minor amendments in relation to provisions of the *Road Management Act 2014* relating to bus stopping points and infrastructure
- removal of officer designations no longer used
- addition of officers to some functions where their supervisor already has been delegated responsibility
- addition of some functions to supervisors where subordinate staff are already delegated responsibility on advice from Maddocks
- removal of CEO from Council to Council Staff delegation, as all function included in this delegation are covered by the Council to CEO delegation.

Policy and Legislative Context

Section 98 of the Act enables Council to delegate powers through an Instrument of Delegation. Section 98(6) requires Council to review within the period of 12 months after a general election all delegations which are in force and have been made by the Council.

Review of the Council to Council Staff Instrument of Delegation is consistent with the Council Plan 2017-2021 commitment and objectives:

We are committed to ensuring the ethical behaviour of Councillors and staff, maintaining good governance and remaining financially sustainable.

Council will demonstrate high levels of ethical behaviour and governance standards.

Council will deliver value for money by ensuring that services are required and delivered efficiently and sustainably.

Internal / External Consultation

This Instrument of Delegation has been prepared based on advice from Maddocks Delegations Service. Council staff have been consulted, and all staff will be provided with a copy of the updated delegation and advised to familiarise themselves with the document to ensure compliance once adopted.

Financial and Resource Implications

There are no financial implications for the Instrument of Delegation from Council to Council Staff. Staff undertake delegated duties within current budget allocations.

Options

Council may review and endorse the Instrument of Delegation to Council Staff as proposed. Alternatively, Council may choose to make changes to the Instrument.

Conclusion

Council, as a legal entity only capable of making decisions by resolution, delegates its powers to Council staff to enable day to day decisions to be made, which in turn allows for the efficient, effective and timely delivery of a range of services.

Council's delegations must be reviewed within 12 months following the general council elections. A review of the Council to Council Instrument of Delegation has been undertaken and updated to ensure ongoing legislative compliance.

RECOMMENDATION

In the exercise of the powers conferred by sections 98(1) of the *Local Government Act 1989* (the Act) and all other legislation referred to in the attached instrument of delegation, Council resolves that:

- 1. There be delegated to the members of Council staff holding, acting in or performing the duties of the offices or positions referred to in the attached Instrument of Delegation to members of Council staff, the powers, duties and functions set out in that instrument, subject to the conditions and limitations specified in that instrument.**
- 2. The Instrument comes into force immediately the common seal of Council is affixed to the Instrument.**
- 3. On the coming into force of the Instrument all previous delegations to members of Council staff (other than the Chief Executive Officer) are revoked.**
- 4. The duties and functions set out in the Instrument must be performed, and the powers set out in the Instrument must be executed, in accordance with any guidelines or policies of Council that it may from time to time adopt.**
- 5. The common seal be affixed to the Instrument.**

Attachments

1. S6 Delegation Council to Council Staff 2017 - Under Separate Cover

10.5 Council to Special Committees Delegation

Author: Penny MacDonald, Executive Services and Governance Coordinator

File No: D17/438

Previous Council Reference: Nil

Declaration

Chief Executive Officer – Andrew Mason

In providing this advice to Council as the Chief Executive Officer, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

Author - Penny MacDonald

In providing this advice to Council as the Executive Services and Governance Coordinator, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

Summary

The purpose of this report is for Council to review the Instruments of Delegation to Special Committees, as required by the *Local Government Act 1989* (the Act), and to exempt members of special committees from submitting primary and ordinary returns. A review has been carried out and some changes are proposed to the existing Instruments of Delegation.

Introduction

Council is required to review its instruments of delegation within 12 months after the general council elections. Council is also required to review any exemptions to members of special committees from submitting primary and ordinary returns.

Eighteen special committees were appointed by Council resolution on 23 February 2010, in accordance with section 86 of the Act. These special committees assist with the management of Council facilities and make decisions on behalf of Council within the scope of their delegations.

Issues

Instruments of Delegation

The Instruments of Delegations for 18 special committees have been reviewed and updated to ensure consistency within the various committee types. Additional amendments have also been made as required and are noted in the following list.

Existing special committees consist of:

- Berrybank Hall CoM (last updated 2/09/2013)
- Camperdown Swimming Pool CoM (last updated 28/09/2015)
- Cobden Aerodrome CoM (last updated 2/09/2013)
- Cobden Swimming Pool CoM (last updated 28/09/2015)
- Cobden Civic Hall CoM (last updated 8/09/2015)
- Ecklin Hall CoM (last updated 2/09/2013)
- Kilnoorat Cemetery CoM (last updated 30/05/2013). Also updated to reflect a change in legislation

- Lake Tooliorook Recreation Reserve CoM (last updated 8/09/2015). Also updated to reflect removal of pontoons at the Lake
- Lismore Swimming Pool CoM (last updated 28/09/2015)
- Mount Leura & Mount Sugarloaf CoM (last updated 2/09/2013)
- Port Campbell Public Purpose Reserve Committee (last updated 24/10/2014)
- Simpson & District Public Hall CoM (last updated 8/09/2015)
- Skipton Swimming Pool CoM (last updated 28/09/2015)
- Terang Civic Centre CoM (last updated 8/09/2015)
- Terang Swimming Pool CoM (last updated 28/09/2015)
- Timboon & District Public Hall CoM (last updated 8/09/2015)
- Timboon Swimming Pool CoM (last updated 28/09/2015)
- Timboon Sporting Centre CoM (last updated 2/09/2013).

Exemption from Submitting Primary and Ordinary Returns

Section 81(2A) of the *Local Government Act 1989* states that ‘a Council may exempt a member of a special committee who is not a Councillor from being required to submit a primary return or an ordinary return’.

As members of special committees are volunteers and the scope of their financial and policy responsibility is limited, it is considered that the requirement to complete pecuniary interest returns would be an administrative burden and deter a number of community members from volunteering for these positions. It is recommended that members of special committees continue to be required to observe the provisions relating to declaring pecuniary interests but be exempt from the need to provide regular statutory returns.

Policy and Legislative Context

Section 98 of the Act enables Council to delegate powers through an Instrument of Delegation. Section 98(6) requires Council to review within the period of 12 months after a general election all delegations which are in force and have been made by the Council.

Section 81(2A) of the *Local Government Act 1989* enables Council to exempt members of special committees from submitting primary or ordinary returns.

Review of the Council to Council Staff Instrument of Delegation is consistent with the Council Plan 2017-2021 commitment and objectives:

We are committed to ensuring the ethical behaviour of Councillors and staff, maintaining good governance and remaining financially sustainable.

Council will demonstrate high levels of ethical behaviour and governance standards.

Council will deliver value for money by ensuring that services are required and delivered efficiently and sustainably.

Internal / External Consultation

The Instruments of Delegation have been prepared based on advice from the Maddocks Delegations Service. Council staff who liaise with special committees have been consulted during the review. Special committees have the opportunity to provide input into their Instruments of Delegation at their annual general meetings.

All special committees will be provided with a copy of their updated delegation and advised to familiarise themselves with the document to ensure compliance once adopted.

Financial and Resource Implications

There are no financial implications for the Instruments of Delegation from Council to the special committees. Members of special committees operate within the financial limitations specified in the Instruments.

Options

Council may review and endorse the Instruments of Delegation to Special Committees as proposed. Alternatively, Council may choose to make changes to the Instruments.

Council may also choose whether or not to exempt members of special committees, who are not Councillors, from being required to submit primary and ordinary returns.

Conclusion

Council's delegations must be reviewed within 12 months following the general council elections. A review of the Council to Special Committees Instruments of Delegation has been undertaken and the Instruments have been updated to ensure ongoing legislative compliance. It is also recommended that Council continue to exempt members of special committees from submitting primary or ordinary returns.

RECOMMENDATION

In the exercise of the powers conferred by sections 86 and 87 of the *Local Government Act 1989* (the Act), Council resolves that:

- 1. The Instruments of Delegation for the following Special Committees be revoked:**
 - (a) Berrybank Hall Committee of Management**
 - (b) Camperdown Swimming Pool Committee of Management**
 - (c) Cobden Airstrip Committee of Management**
 - (d) Cobden Civic Hall Committee of Management**
 - (e) Cobden Swimming Pool Committee of Management**
 - (f) Ecklin Public Hall Committee of Management**
 - (g) Kilnoorat Cemetery Committee of Management**
 - (h) Lake Tooliorook Recreation Reserve Committee of Management**
 - (i) Lismore Swimming Pool Committee of Management**
 - (j) Mount Leura and Mount Sugarloaf Committee of Management**
 - (k) Port Campbell Public Purposes Reserve Committee of Management**
 - (l) Simpson and District Public Hall Committee of Management**
 - (m) Skipton Swimming Pool Committee of Management**
 - (n) Terang Civic Centre Committee of Management**
 - (o) Terang Swimming Pool Committee of Management**

-
- (p) Timboon and District Public Hall Committee of Management**
 - (q) Timboon Sporting Centre Committee of Management**
 - (r) Timboon Swimming Pool Committee of Management**
- 2. There be delegated to the following special committees the powers, duties and functions set out in the attached Instruments of Delegation, subject to the conditions and limitations specified in the instruments:**
- (a) Berrybank Hall Committee of Management**
 - (b) Camperdown Swimming Pool Committee of Management**
 - (c) Cobden Airstrip Committee of Management**
 - (d) Cobden Civic Hall Committee of Management**
 - (e) Cobden Swimming Pool Committee of Management**
 - (f) Ecklin Public Hall Committee of Management**
 - (g) Kilnoorat Cemetery Committee of Management**
 - (h) Lake Tooliorook Recreation Reserve Committee of Management**
 - (i) Lismore Swimming Pool Committee of Management**
 - (j) Mount Leura and Mount Sugarloaf Committee of Management**
 - (k) Port Campbell Public Purposes Reserve Committee of Management**
 - (l) Simpson and District Public Hall Committee of Management**
 - (m) Skipton Swimming Pool Committee of Management**
 - (n) Terang Civic Centre Committee of Management**
 - (o) Terang Swimming Pool Committee of Management**
 - (p) Timboon and District Public Hall Committee of Management**
 - (q) Timboon Sporting Centre Committee of Management**
 - (r) Timboon Swimming Pool Committee of Management**
- 3. Each Instrument comes into force immediately the common seal of Council is affixed to the Instrument and remains in force until Council determines to vary or revoke it.**
- 4. The powers, duties and functions conferred on the Committees by the Instruments must be exercised in accordance with any guidelines or policies of Council that it may from time to time adopt.**
- 5. The common seal be affixed to the Instruments.**
- 6. The members of the following Committees, who are not Councillors, pursuant to Section 81(2A) of the Act, are exempted from being required to submit a primary or ordinary return:**
- (a) Berrybank Hall Committee of Management**
 - (b) Camperdown Swimming Pool Committee of Management**
 - (c) Cobden Airstrip Committee of Management**

- (d) Cobden Civic Hall Committee of Management**
- (e) Cobden Swimming Pool Committee of Management**
- (f) Ecklin Public Hall Committee of Management**
- (g) Kilnoorat Cemetery Committee of Management**
- (h) Lake Tooliorook Recreation Reserve Committee of Management**
- (i) Lismore Swimming Pool Committee of Management**
- (j) Mount Leura and Mount Sugarloaf Committee of Management**
- (k) Port Campbell Public Purposes Reserve Committee of Management**
- (l) Simpson and District Public Hall Committee of Management**
- (m) Skipton Swimming Pool Committee of Management**
- (n) Terang Civic Centre Committee of Management**
- (o) Terang Swimming Pool Committee of Management**
- (p) Timboon and District Public Hall Committee of Management**
- (q) Timboon Sporting Centre Committee of Management**
- (r) Timboon Swimming Pool Committee of Management.**

Attachments

1. Instrument of Delegation to Berrybank Hall Committee of Management 2017 - Under Separate Cover
2. Instrument of delegation to Camperdown Swimming Pool Committee of Management 2017 - Under Separate Cover
3. Instrument of delegation to Cobden Aerodrome Committee of Management 2017 - Under Separate Cover
4. Instrument of delegation to Cobden Swimming Pool Committee of Management 2017 - Under Separate Cover
5. Instrument of delegation Cobden Civic Hall Committee of Management 2017 - Under Separate Cover
6. Instrument of delegation Ecklin Hall Committee of Management 2017 - Under Separate Cover
7. Instrument of Delegation Kilnoorat Cemetery Committee of Management 2017 - Under Separate Cover
8. Instrument of delegation to Lake Tooliorook Recreation Reserve Committee of Management 2017 - Under Separate Cover
9. Instrument of delegation Lismore Swimming Pool Committee of Management 2017 - Under Separate Cover
10. Instrument of delegation Mount Leura and Mount Sugarloaf Development Committee of Management 2017 - Under Separate Cover
11. Instrument of Delegation Port Campbell Public Purposes Reserve Committee of Management 2017 - Under Separate Cover
12. Instrument of delegation Simpson and District Public Hall Committee of Management 2017 - Under Separate Cover
13. Instrument of delegation Skipton Swimming Pool Committee of Management 2017 - Under Separate Cover

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14. Instrument of delegation Terang Civic Centre Committee of Management 2017 - Under Separate Cover
 15. Instrument of delegation Terang Swimming Pool Committee of Management 2017 - Under Separate Cover
 16. Instrument of delegation Timboon and District Public Hall Committee of Management 2017 - Under Separate Cover
 17. Instrument of delegation Timboon Sporting Centre Committee of Management 2017 - Under Separate Cover
 18. Instrument of delegation Timboon Swimming Pool Committee of Management 2017 - Under Separate Cover

10.6 2017-2018 WorkCover Insurance Premium - Authorisation for Payment

Author: Michele Stephenson, Manager Human Resources/Risk

File No: D17/487

Previous Council Reference: Nil

Declaration

Chief Executive Officer – Andrew Mason

In providing this advice to Council as the Chief Executive Officer, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

Author - Michele Stephenson

In providing this advice to Council as the Manager Human Resources/Risk, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

Summary

This report requests Council authorisation for payment of the 2017-2018 WorkCover Insurance premium.

Introduction

WorkSafe Victoria (WorkSafe) provides insurance cover for workers who are injured or become ill because of their work (WorkCover insurance). WorkSafe has appointed and licensed five agents in Victoria to manage employer's premiums, claims and other functions. Council's insurer is Gallagher Bassett. WorkCover premiums are calculated by the Victorian WorkCover Authority.

Issues

The renewal notice for Council's 2017-2018 WorkCover Insurance premium was received on 18 July. A five percent discount applies if payment is received by 7 August (i.e. a discount of \$14,030 ex GST). The 2017-2018 premium is higher than the Chief Executive Officer's (CEO) delegated limit under Council's Procurement Policy (\$250,000 ex GST). Council authorisation is sought for the CEO to pay the premium.

Policy and Legislative Context

The *Workplace Injury Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2013* (WIRC Act) requires employers to insure their employees against workplace injury or illness. Section 94A of the *Local Government Act 1989* also requires the CEO to carry out Council's responsibilities under the WIRC Act. In authorising the payment Council is upholding the following commitments in the 2017-2021 Council Plan.

Council will make budgetary decision that ensure Council remains in a strong financial position now and into the future.

We value our employees, their contribution and are committed to providing a safe workplace. We will ensure our organisation delivers a high level of customer service and our employees act with integrity at all times.

Commitment to the education and training of our employees and the provision of a safe workplace.

Financial and Resource Implications

The 2017-2018 WorkCover insurance premium is \$280,594 (ex GST and before discount for early payment). If the premium is paid by 7 August, a saving of \$14,030 can be achieved resulting in a premium of \$266,564. For the CEO to pay the premium Council authorisation is required. The budgeted premium for 2017-2018 is \$270,000.

Options

Council can authorise the CEO to make payment of the 2017-2018 WorkCover insurance premium by 7 August or not.

Conclusion

Council must have an insurance policy to protect its workers in the event of a workplace injury or illness. The payment of Council's WorkCover premium requires Council authorisation. A saving can be achieved if payment is made by 7 August.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council authorises the Chief Executive Officer to pay the 2017-2018 WorkCover insurance premium.

10.7 Records of Assembly of Councillors

Author: Andrew Mason, Chief Executive Officer

File No: D17/422

Previous Council Reference: Nil

Declaration

Chief Executive Officer – Andrew Mason

In providing this advice to Council as the Chief Executive Officer, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

Summary

This report documents the Assembly of Councillors to be reported since the last Ordinary Meeting of Council on 27 June 2017.

Introduction

The *Local Government Act 1989* (the Act) requires that records of meetings which constitute an Assembly of Councillors be tabled at the next practicable meeting of Council and is incorporated in the minutes of the Council meeting.

Issues

An 'Assembly of Councillors' is defined in the Act as a meeting at which matters are considered that are intended or likely to be the subject of a Council decision or subject to the exercise of a delegated authority and which is either of the following:

- A meeting of an advisory committee where at least one Councillor is present; or
- A planned or scheduled meeting that includes at least half the Councillors and at least one Council officer.

Typical meetings giving rise to an Assembly of Councillors at Corangamite Shire include Councillor briefings, advisory committees and planning site inspections. However, from time to time additional records may be reported in accordance with the Act.

Section 80A of the Act requires that a record must be kept of an Assembly of Councillors which lists:

- The Councillors and members of Council staff attending.
- The matters discussed.
- Disclosures of conflict of interest (if any are made).
- Whether a Councillor left the meeting after making a disclosure.

Records of an Assembly of Councillors are documented by a Council officer present at a meeting designated as an Assembly of Councillors. Responsibility for the maintenance of records associated with Assembly of Councillors rests with the Chief Executive Officer.

Policy and Legislative Context

Tabling of the records of Assembly of Councillors ensures Council is compliant with the Act. In addition, this report is consistent with the Council Plan 2013-2017 strategy, "Council will demonstrate high levels of ethical behaviour and corporate governance standards".

Conclusion

The records documenting the below Assembly of Councillors are attached:

- Councillor Briefing 27 June 2017
- Councillor Briefing 11 July 2017.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council accepts the attached Records of Assembly of Councillors.

Attachments

1. Record of an Assembly of Councillors 27 June 2017
2. Record of an Assembly of Councillors 11 July 2017

Council

Record of an Assembly of Councillors

**Councillor Briefing****Date:** 27 June 2017**Time:** 1.00 pm**Place:** Camperdown Court House then continuing at Killara Centre**Present:**

Cr Beard Cr Brown Cr Durant Cr Gstrein
 Cr Illingworth Cr McArthur Cr Trotter

Officers:

Ian Gibb Brooke Love Andrew Mason David Rae

Ian Gibb and David Rae arrived at 1.30 pm.

Jarrold Woff (Item 1)

Michael Emerson (Items 3 and 4)

Penny MacDonald (Item 6)

Guests:

Di Cameron, Chris Maguire, Rob Fleming, Pat Robertson, Ric Robertson, Graeme Fischer
(Item 1)

Graham Soawyer (Item 4)

Issues Discussed:

Item	Discussion Topic
1	Court House Visit
2	Hot Topics: <i>CEO Leave, Canberra Debrief, Camperdown Saleyards, Timboon Subdivision Update, VicRoads Briefing, Councillor Advocacy Session, Roads Advocacy Video Footage, Colac Car Club Proposal, Customised Licence Plates, Monterosa, Glenormiston, Police at Next Briefing, Agenda Items.</i>
3	Economic Development Unit – Current Proposals and Leads
4	NBN Update for Corangamite Shire
5	Councillor items <i>Skipton Tree Replacement, Pop-up Shop in Derrinallum, Natural Gas in Terang.</i>
6	Delegations
7	Risk Register Refresh

Conflicts of Interest declared: Nil

Councillor left the meeting at: NA

Councillor Conflict of Interest Forms Completed: NA

Meeting close: 6.00 pm

Note taker: Andrew Mason

Council

Record of an Assembly of Councillors

Councillor Briefing**Date:** 11 July 2017**Time:** 9.30 am**Place:** Commencing at Old Council Chambers then continuing at Camperdown Saleyards**Present:**

Cr Beard Cr Brown Cr Durant Cr Gstrein
 Cr Illingworth Cr McArthur Cr Trotter

*Cr Illingworth left the meeting at 1.21 pm.***Officers:**

Ian Gibb Brooke Love Andrew Mason David Rae

Lyall Bond, Jarrod Woff, Lucy Vesey, James Watson (Item 5)

*Jarrod Woff left the meeting at 1.30 pm and returned at 1.34 pm.**Lyall Bond left the meeting at 2.17 pm and returned at 2.21 pm.*

Rory Neeson, Jeff Mason, Mick Reid, Joe O'Connor, David Spokes, Graeme Dunn, Ian Gladman, Helen Gaut (Item 7)

Guests:

Acting Supt Graham Banks, Insp. Gary Coombes, Det. Sergeant Chris Asenjo (Item 6)

Issues Discussed:

Item	Discussion Topic
1	Hot Topics: <i>Health & Wellbeing Plan, Recreation Facilities Management Tender, Population Program Launch, Councillor Advocacy Workshop Dates, Terang Gas, Skipton Issues, Deakin Obesity Forum, Councillor Expense Claims.</i>
2	Councillor Items: <i>Marriage Equality, Local Government Review Submission, C45 Amendment, Timboon Rail Trail, Timboon Streetscape, Greenwaste Processing, Terang Footpath Maintenance.</i>
3	Amendment C45 Corangamite Planning Scheme
4	Response to VicRoads' Engagement on Country Roads
5	Council Grants Program 2017-2018
6	Policing Issues within Corangamite Shire
7	Photo Opportunity at Camperdown Saleyards

Conflicts of Interest declared: Cr Gstrein declared an indirect conflict of interest by indirect financial interest for Item 1 (Recreation Facilities Management Tender).

Cr Beard declared an indirect conflict of interest by conflicting duty for Item 5.

Cr Gstrein declared an indirect conflict of interest by being party to the matter for Item 5.

Cr Durant declared an indirect conflict of interest by conflicting duty for Item 5.

Cr Trotter declared an indirect conflict of interest by conflicting duty for Item 5.

Councillors left the meeting at: Cr Gstrein left at 9.35 am and returned at 9.36 am.
Cr Beard left at 1.37 pm and returned at 1.38 pm.
Cr Gstrein left at 1.39 pm and returned at 1.40 pm.
Cr Durant left at 1.40 pm and returned at 1.43 pm.
Cr Trotter left at 1.43 pm and returned at 1.47 pm.

Councillor Conflict of Interest Forms Completed: Yes

Meeting close: 4.53 pm **Note taker:** David Rae

11. OTHER BUSINESS

12. OPEN FORUM

Members of the public are very welcome to make statements or ask questions relevant to Corangamite Shire at the Open Forum section of Council meetings.

To assist with the smooth running of the meeting, we ask that you raise a maximum of two items at a meeting and please follow this procedure:

1. Wait until the Mayor asks if there are any items in Open Forum and invites you to speak.
2. Stand if you are able and introduce yourself.
3. Speak for a maximum of five minutes.

We will undertake to answer as many questions as possible at a meeting and if we cannot answer a question at the meeting we will provide a written response no later than five working days after the Council meeting.

13. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Nil.